

# California GARDEN

January/February 2008

Volume 99 No. 1 \$4.00

*Incomplete*

## *Growing* Camellias

Winter Wonderland: Southern California in Bloom

Digital Photography in the Garden



# Ikebana Exhibition

FEBRUARY 23 ~ 9AM - 5PM

FEBRUARY 24 ~ 9AM - 4PM



Quail Botanical Gardens will be having its first Ikebana exhibition, featuring floral arrangements from the Sogetsu School. The arrangements will be made by the students of Rumi Rice, Keiri Study Group, who has been teaching Ikebana since 1972, first in Japan and now in San Diego. Ikebana, which means "fresh flower arrangement," can be traced back to the mid 6th century when Buddhism was introduced in Japan and floral arrangements were laid at the altars. Sogetsu, one of 60 schools of Ikebana, promotes the idea that Ikebana may be created any time, anywhere, by anyone, and with any material.

**Cost:** Free with admission to the Gardens.

**Please check [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org) for dates and details on all of the activities.**

- BONSAI SHOW IN THE WALLED GARDEN
- THE SHOKENJI TAIKO, A JAPANESE STYLE DRUMMING GROUP OF THE VISTA BUDDHIST TEMPLE
- AND MUCH MORE



**Quail Botanical Gardens**  
**[www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)**



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# California GARDEN

THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS

January/February 2008, Volume 99, Number 1

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**FLOWER SHOWS:** Show chairperson, please contact *California Garden* if you'd like the magazine sold at your show.

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## From the President

The start of a new year is a great time to review the year's accomplishments, look to the future and set new goals.

A year and a half ago my thoughts were filled with Centennial plans and how to celebrate our 100 years of existence in a manner our founding members would have applauded. Current members should be proud of our many events and displays. We certainly raised awareness of the organization.

Office renovation was planned to be finished prior to the centennial; instead that project was completed with all the other centennial activities going on around it. If you haven't been into the office and library (in Room 105 of the Casa del Prado building in Balboa Park), do come!

Great effort was expended in a successful search for a more affordable Art Director to prepare our magazine. These major events, the centennial activities and the day-to-day duties created a very busy and challenging year which left numerous important tasks to be completed in my last six months in the presidency.

Now, for those goals! Your board will be developing some long range plans and our yearly budget in January. In our October planning session we determined that emphasis needs to be placed on increasing membership, promoting active participation of our large membership and making the association more visible in the community. If you have any ideas or suggestions to help us accomplish these objectives please let me know. If you would like to help, please join our efforts!

My personal goals are to continue to raise more funds through advertising to continue to have color in *California Garden*. I hope to develop a major fundraising event to finance

our year's activities. A huge job will be the archival preservation of all our historic memorabilia. We need your help. I would like to find ways to be more helpful to our affiliates, including having greater individual membership and participation from these groups. The most difficult objective at present is having Floral be more visible in the community, as we were in our first 30 years. I have made an effort to network with other horticulture groups in the county, but we need all members to assist with this effort by personally informing and inviting friends to join. A Floral membership makes a great gift.

Wonder in what other ways you can get involved? Here are a number of suggestions.

- Visit our newly renovated library and check out the books from our 3,400 volumes. We receive new books from publishing houses on a regular basis.
- Attend more of the member meetings held four times each year with fine speakers and a chance to "connect" with Floral activities and other members.
- Attend Battle of the Blooms, a unique floral design event to be held January 13.
- Contribute historic memorabilia you may have for our archives.
- Volunteer to represent Floral at other horticulture events in the community.
- Enjoy taking our flower design or crafts classes.
- Volunteer to help staff our office weekdays and Saturday.
- Consider a legacy to Floral in your will.

*Kay Harry*

## MOVING? Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly.

Fill out this form and fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to: SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684.

Changes of address can also be submitted by email to [membership@sdfloral.org](mailto:membership@sdfloral.org).

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# Battle of the Bloom *Rescheduled*

**GET YOUR  
TICKET TODAY  
FOR THIS UNIQUE  
FLORAL DESIGN  
COMPETITION**



Presented by **SAN DIEGO  
FLORAL ASSOCIATION**

**Sunday  
January 13**

**Doors Open @  
3:00 PM**

at the  
**San Diego Museum of Art Copley Auditorium**

**Y**ou won't want to miss this design event! Hardly promoting a floral fight, the aptly named event is a competition by some of California's foremost floral designers. They will appear ready for battle at the San Diego Floral Association's Battle of the Bloom, to be held on Sunday, January 13 from 3:00 pm, at the San Diego Museum of Art's Copley Auditorium in Balboa Park. Rescheduled due to the October fires, Battle of the Bloom is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see leading floral designers perform under competitive pressure in a multi-event. Billed as the "Iron Chef of Floral Design," the Battle of the Bloom will be a series of diverse and creative floral design competitions featuring renowned floral designers and local celebrities.

The six competing floral designers will have their "show piece" arrangements on display when the event opens, created around the theme "Victory at Sea." A distinguished panel of judges will score these, plus the surprise package designs, to determine the overall winner, while the audience will have the opportunity to vote for the People's Choice award.

First on the afternoon's program will be the amateurs "surprise package." Carvill Veech (of Coronado's Crown Garden Club, master gardener, member Creative Flower Arrangers Guild of America) and Bob Gordon (AIFD, board member of California State Floral Association and California Garden Clubs Inc.) and George Speer (of Dos Valles Garden Club, accredited judge, board member Palomar District and California Garden Clubs Inc.) will each be given identical containers and floral materials to complete a creative design suitable for a formal Naval

dinner party titled "Dress Whites."

The theme for the second competition, "A Bridge Too Far," brings to the stage three professional florists: Rene Van Rems (AIFD, world-renowned floral ambassador and author of Rene's Bouquets), Betty Del-Sol Patterson (a floral educator at Southwestern and Mira Costa Colleges) and Robbie Santalucito (Glass Orchid). A 25-minute limit is set for the creation of their "surprise package" designs.

A "round robin" will follow, where the designer starts an arrangement, then rotates every three minutes to the next design picking up where the previous designer left off, for a total of 21 minutes. Topping off the floral fete will be a celebrity Battle of the Bloom where local personalities will be paired with a floral designer whose hands will be tied behind their backs, allowing them to only give verbal advice.

The beautiful floral creations will be raffled off at the conclusion of the event, with proceeds going to "Homefront San Diego," a non-profit organization that supports local military families in need. All left over flowers will be made into floral bouquets by the Flower Arrangers Guild of San Diego Floral Association and taken to wounded soldiers at the Naval Hospital San Diego.

Tickets are \$50 for preferred forward seating, and \$35 for general admission rear seating; proceeds will benefit San Diego Floral Association. Tickets are available at San Diego Floral Association Office (Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.), Mission Hills Nursery and Walter Andersen Nursery. For information call 619-232-5762 or visit [www.sdfloral.org](http://www.sdfloral.org).

—Liz Linderman

# Dig in!

News, tips, advice  
and products you  
can use.

## Caring for Your Live Christmas Tree

**T**raditions are always changing. Although we try to repeat the past, it just isn't the same, and often, new traditions are born. For many reasons, a tradition spreading in popularity around the country is buying a living Christmas tree for use indoors during the holidays. Follow these helpful hints so that your potted, evergreen friend makes it to celebrate another holiday season indoors.

Now that the holiday season is over, it is time to take care of your tree. In our San Diego climate we are fortunate to not have to worry too much about the temperature variation from indoors to outside. In cold climates it is recommended that the tree is re-acclimated by slowly introducing it outdoors. While cold isn't a problem, the heat may be; we do need to be careful

of the sun, so keep the tree in the shade for a few days before returning it to a sunny location.

As soon as you take the tree outside, hose it down! Give the leaves and the roots a good drink. Conifers generally like good drainage. Let the soil dry before watering again.

Once a year the tree should be given a good pruning. Late spring or early summer is generally a good time. You want to wait until the tree has finished its spring growth. Shape it as you desire. Although summer and fall growth is minimal, it can help fill out the tree. Give your tree a light, final shape-pruning in late fall.

Once a year you should pull the tree out of the pot and loosen up the soil. Untangle the roots and prune out overgrown twisted or dead roots. Treat it as a Bonsai. Replant with some fresh potting soil. Increasing the size of the pot isn't necessary every year. Judge the pot size to the size of the tree, and if the pot looks small, move the tree up to the next size. (And, if even the big pot looks small, consider planting your tree.) Fertilize your potted tree lightly, once in early spring and again in early fall.—*John Noble*

*Be sure to give your potted pine attention year-round.*



PHOTO: AMY R. WOOD

## HOME SWEET HOME: Crocus

A personal story  
about how crocus made one transplant  
feel a little less homesick

**W**hen I was 19 years old, my parents allowed me to take over landscaping their yard. I asked each what they wanted to see when they looked out the window, and my mother answered, "crocus." She explained that when she was a little girl growing up in Gray, Maine, waiting for the crocus to pop up out of the snow was a winter tradition. The crocus's appearance was a sure sign that spring was just around the corner, and that she'd be free to return to playing outdoors whenever she wished. To this day, I associate crocus with my mom.

When I moved to sunny San Diego in late 2006, I was confronted with many new gardening challenges (my experience in the cooler climes of Northern California barely serving me here), and I worried that I wouldn't be able to grow crocus as I had always done before. Indeed, growing crocus seemed more important to me than ever before, because now my mom lived 500 miles away, and I was admittedly homesick. I was determined to try though, even if I failed. Happily, my first attempt at growing crocus in San Diego was successful last year. I was heartened by the knowledge that they would grow, and I'm eagerly anticipating this year's crop.

To successfully grow crocus in San Diego, you must chill the corms for six to eight weeks before planting. Do this by putting the corms in a paper bag and then placing the bag in



PHOTO: RACHEL COBB

*Chill crocus corms for best results.*

your refrigerator's crisper. (Make sure there are no apples in the crisper, as the off-gas of the apples will severely reduce bloom.) Those planting in inland areas should plant your chilled corms by December; those along the coast should plant in January. If you missed the chance to chill for six to eight weeks prior to January, you can try a shortened chill and/or later planting date, however, a successful bloom is not guaranteed. Plant the corms two to three inches deep in porous soil with a little bit of your favorite bulb food; crocus may be grown in full sun or partial shade. Be sure to water, yet not over water, throughout the plants' growth and bloom (overwatering can cause rot). To ensure crocus blooms year after year, be sure to store your corms in a cool place after removing them from the soil post-bloom; wait until the foliage turns brown before digging for increased success next year. Divide the corms every three to four years for best results.

— *Amy R. Wood*

# Gardening On A New Level

Join SDFA guest Mitch Shirts of theMulch at our February 19 general meeting

**D**id you ever fall in love with a plant and wonder:  
 "Can I grow that in my garden?"  
 "Is it right for my climate zone?"  
 "How much water does it need?"

"What do the experts do to keep it so beautiful?"

But the answers to all those questions are in a dozen different books and most of those books are written for different gardening conditions. None of them address precisely what you contend with—your own garden, with its individual soil, exposure and microclimate.

That's precisely why our February speaker, Mitch Shirts, is developing a new tool for gardeners right here in San Diego. Mr. Shirts grew up in the San Diego area and loves gardening. He has had all the same frustrations each of us has had, but he decided to do something about it.

His idea is to accumulate the wisdom of local experts, the resources of proven techniques and the interests of individual gardeners and make them accessible to everyone, in a way that is easy to use. That's a tall order. It has been in the making for nearly five years.

This new gardening resource and tool is called theMulch ([www.themulch.com](http://www.themulch.com)) because mulch is a mixture of things that help your garden grow its best. Even if you get quivers when you hear the word "computer," you will be fascinated by the care, devotion and sensitivity that have played as factors

in the ongoing creation of this gardening resource. Think of what you can share with your son, daughter, neighbor, garden club or postman whenever the subject of plants and gardening come up.

You techies will appreciate that in just a few months, theMulch has become one of the top gardening sites accessed in the country. Membership, which is free, is climbing, and should be in excess of 1,000 people before spring. That's 1,000 people interested in gardening who can share experiences and advice with you on a plant-by-plant basis!

Resources include lists of wonderful plants for specific purposes as recommended by experts, as well as a growing database of information on the plants. You can also create a personal area that includes a list of your own plants. People who have the same plants can communicate with one another. And gardening groups and societies can also create their own spaces to work together.

The meeting is free, so join us to learn more about this exciting new gardening tool at 7:00 p.m. on February 19, 2008 in Room 101, Casa Del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. For more information, call 619-232-5762.—Lucy Warren

**Before coming to the meeting, be sure to visit  
 Mitch Shirts at [www.themulch.com](http://www.themulch.com).**



Mitch Shirts

## New Year's Resolutions in Floral Design

**I**f you are a floral designer who feels they need a new challenge, or are someone who has always wanted to learn flower arranging but never got around to it, then why not make a New Year's resolution to learn more about floral design? Here are five simple suggestions to get you started on a path to the perfect arrangement.

First, sign up for a series of floral design classes with SDFA; classes are offered every Thursday morning. (For more information on SDFA classes, see page 24.) Second, join a local garden club and get involved in flower shows. Need a specific event to get started? Try attending the Floral Design Forum at the Carlsbad Women's Club on the first Monday of each month at 12:30 p.m. (for more information on this, visit [www.geocities.com/pgardenclubs](http://www.geocities.com/pgardenclubs)).

Third, order a copy of the Flower Show Handbook from [NGC.org](http://NGC.org), or borrow a copy from the San Diego Floral Association Library. Fourth, find a new container to use for your design. A big part of the fun in floral design is searching

for the perfect vase or container. Often times the best containers are found at garage sales, thrift stores or discount stores such as Ross, Marshall's or TJMaxx. Some great ones are even found in other people's trash or on the side of the road.

Fifth, and finally, visit your local farmer's market and look for flowers and foliage that will go well with the container you have chosen to use. In fact, it's a little known fact that it's perfectly acceptable when entering judged floral arranging shows to use flowers that have been purchased. While we might prefer to use things we have grown in our own gardens, this is not always feasible. Right when we are ready to make an arrangement is not usually right when our own flowers and foliage are at their peak of perfection.

Feeling inspired? The thing to remember about floral design is that it takes practice and study. Have fun and I hope you win a blue ribbon at one of the Spring Flower Shows this year.—Kathy Taylor de Murillo



# Dig in!

## Turn Your Thirsty Lawn Into a Sea of Wildflowers

Nature is a pretty powerful force! We may try to control it, but usually on the large scale nature is controlling us. The recent fires showed, once again, how narrow a tightrope humans and nature walk. Brave firefighters, devastated homeowners, architects, city planners, contractors, environmentalists and garden designers will all be analyzing what to do next, to try and coexist with this arid and fiery land. Locked up in the seeds of wildflowers, nature already has the blueprints for its return. When the rains fall, these dormant seeds will hear nature's call. Little sprouts of California Poppies, Chinese Houses, Blue-eyed Grass, Owl's Clover, Bluebells, Mountain Garland, Lupine, Five Spot and Baby Blue Eyes will rise through the ash and start a new cycle of life.

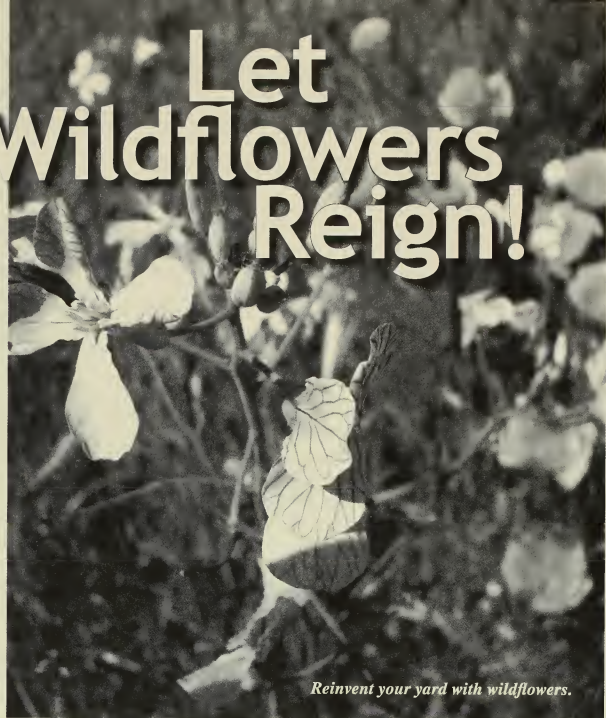
California native wildflowers are survivors, and are naturally fitted to grow in this land. They can be a great replacement for people looking to rid themselves of a water-thirsty lawn and redesign their landscapes. There are several ways to replace your lawn with wildflowers. It is not necessary to use bulldozers, rototillers or chemicals to get the job done, as a pick, shovel and mulch work well. Here are some tips on how you can go from lawn-owner to wildflower sower.

The first thing to do is turn the watering system off. If there are pop up sprays where you want your wildflowers to grow, convert them to risers with spray heads. If we get a good rain year, you shouldn't need to irrigate at all.

The simplest system of planting wildflowers is to throw some seeds into the wind. This may be fun, but it isn't usually very effective. To have better success, try digging out 12" circles of the sod and turn them upside down, so that the dirt side is up. You can then either plug the hole with the upside down piece of sod or you can leave it on the surface next to the hole. Do this every four to five feet in a random pattern. Leave walkways and open areas so that you can walk through the yard and have access for weeding or picking flowers.

If you want to remove all signs of grass there is a simple organic system. The idea is to smother the existing lawn with four inches of compost or mulch. To maintain a neat appearance by the sidewalk or other walkways, dig out a strip of sod one to two feet wide, and three to four inches deep. These pieces of sod can be placed upside down on another patch of the lawn to make a mound. Cover the whole area with four inches of compost or mulch. Most of the existing lawn will break down into compost. With this technique you may have to weed the surviving grass out for the first year.

# Let Wildflowers Reign!



*Reinvent your yard with wildflowers.*

PHOTO: AMY R. WOOD

For planting you will still need to cut circles through the buried sod, so that you can bring some real soil to the surface. After you have some soil on the surface, put the cut out grass sod into the bottom of the hole. Now the mixed surface soil is ideal for planting seeds or a plant.

There are many wildflower mixes. Some are all native, some attract butterflies or hummingbirds, while some grow to specific heights or have a color theme. Be sure to read how much actual seed is in the package. Many mixes have lots of fluff and few seeds, and many non-native seeds are not ideal for keeping your home fire-safe, so be sure to learn about your new flowers before planting. You can play with the garden design if use different mixes, or you choose some individual seeds to create color patterns through the garden.

The best time to plant your seeds is on a nice rainy day. Sprinkle your wildflowers seeds on the exposed soil. Lightly sprinkle some amendment here and there. Use a hose spray to gently water once or twice daily for the first week, every two days the second week, and then once a week if it doesn't rain.

Nature is not going to allow us to have a weed free wildflower garden. We can either accept the weeds as part of the garden or try to have some control. The wildflower circle planting gives us an opportunity. Having designated circles, holes or mounds for the wildflowers, allows us to freely hoe, weed, weedwhack or mow the other areas of the meadow. This naturally, with our aid, gives the wildflowers a better chance of showing off. —John Noble

# FRIEND OR FOE: Buffalo Treehopper

What is this insect? A sap-sucker. Sure, it sounds like a taunt you might hear on a grade-school playground, but it is actually a hyphenated curse uttered by gardeners everywhere when they see the sap-sucking Buffalo Treehopper (*Stictocephala bisonia*). Closely related to the leafhopper, Buffalo Treehoppers specialize in sucking juice from trees and herbaceous plants. Adult Buffalo Treehoppers are a half inch or shorter, are green or brown in appearance and appear to be wedge-shaped; the prominent hump on the back gives the insect its distinctive name.

Adults use camouflage to survive, hoping that you won't notice them sitting on your plants and that you'll either overlook them, or mistake them as a thorn or other part of the plant. They have small wings and are notoriously shy, flying away if given too much attention. Juvenile Buffalo Treehoppers are very small, black and have spiny backs. These little guys stick together, sometimes congregating in large swaths. They are sometimes care-taken by ants, who feed on the honeydew created by the Buffalo Treehoppers' sap-sucking.

What do they do? The Buffalo Treehopper slices open plants and then sucks out the juices from the small slits. They target a number of trees, including the elm, poplar, ash and apple. They are also attracted to herbaceous plants, such as tomatoes, jasmine and asters. While the damage from one insect isn't severe, sap-sucking behavior can attract other sap-sucking pests, as well as ants. If the Buffalo Treehoppers are concentrated on a plant or branch, their sap-sucking can inhibit the infested area's growth. The weeping sap can also host sooty mold.



PHOTO: AMY R. WOOD

*Two usually shy adult Buffalo Treehoppers are snapped resting on a jasmine stalk.*

Adult Buffalo Treehoppers lay eggs beneath the bark of trees or within the stems of herbaceous plants; the eggs overwinter, hatching the following year. If hatching from a tree, the nymphs will head for the grass and weeds below for sustenance; if hatching from a plant (such as a Night Blooming Jasmine), they'll go to work on the host plant.

So should you eradicate or encourage? Definitely eradicate. While they won't mow down your garden like a pack of hungry locusts, Buffalo Treehoppers are foes. Their behavior is in no way beneficial and they can do serious damage to your plants if there are enough of them and they're left unchecked. To eradicate juveniles, use a forceful blast of water, insecticidal soap or, if you really want them gone, apply rubbing alcohol with a Q-tip. The adults are harder to deal with, as their armor protects them pretty well from the water, and they don't seem to mind the soap. Aside from plucking them from the plant and manually disposing of them, try Neem Oil. Beneficial insects like mantids and spiders, as well as birds like the American Robin, are also known predators.—Amy R. Wood

## Pennies for Pines

The Pennies for Pines Program is a California Garden Clubs Conservation Project started in 1941 to restore forest devastated by wildfires, disease and insect infestation. Because of the recent wildfires, the clubs of The Palomar District of the California Garden Clubs (San Diego County and Temecula) are actively soliciting donations to replace the trees lost to fire in San Diego's Cleveland National Forest. One plantation, consisting of approximately 350 trees, costs \$68. Whether you're an outdoor person, a conservationist or just love trees, please consider donating. Make your check payable to: Cleveland National Forest, and then mail your donation to: Jerry Thirloway, Palomar District Director, California Garden Clubs, Inc., 1105 Santa Madera Ct., Solana Beach, CA 92075. For more information, please contact us at [jerrythirloway@roadrunner.com](mailto:jerrythirloway@roadrunner.com) or visit [www.geocities.com/pgardenclubs/](http://www.geocities.com/pgardenclubs/).

In a floral design rut? Try creating a design-of-the-month! Dedicated yourself to trying new designs—and new concepts—every month can help break you out of the floral doldrums, as well as create a work of art. Here are two suggestions for January and February.

## January

To start off 2008 in a big, splashy way, choose flowers with colors opposite one another on the color wheel and very different in shape and texture. An example of this would be orange roses, considered to be romantic and traditional, paired with purple snapdragons, unconventional, strong and spiked. Add dark spears of New Zealand Flax to reinforce the line of the snapdragons and add dark chocolate colored succulents and small orange pompom mums to add interest at the bottom. This design would go nicely in a low black inexpensive plastic container. Use a pin holder or floral foam to hold the flowers in place. You will have created a January design that is fresh, modern, unexpected and a bit quirky and fun.

## February

In February, rather than making a traditional Valentine's Day design, why not try something abstract? Start by painting an empty tuna or cat food can a taupe color and attach it to an interesting piece of driftwood. Find two clean and un-tattered Mexican fan palm leaves. Cut two heart shapes out of each leaf, leaving the stems on and making one heart smaller than the other, about 12" wide and about 8" in height. Put a pin holder or floral foam securely in the can. Place the largest heart leaf off to the left side toward the back of the can and the smaller one in front in the middle. Use five large, bold, pink or red flowers, such as gerbera daisies. Cut the flowers in graduated lengths starting with 14", 11", 8", 5" and 2". Start with the tallest flower and stagger them down from the top middle to the bottom near the rim of the can, going from side to side. The bottom flower should end up near the lip of the can on the right side of the palm stems. Cover the floral foam or pin holder and stems with reindeer moss. Presto—a fun February creation.—Kathy Taylor de Murillo

**CORRECTION** In the book review, "Designing California Native Gardens"—featured on page 34 of the September/October 2007 issue—Don Miller was mistakenly listed as the reviewer; the correct reviewer was Marge Howard-Jones. We regret the error.

## Garden Preview Party

Preview to the  
Spring Home/Garden Show

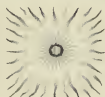
Del Mar Fairgrounds  
Thursday, February 28

- ❖ Be first to see the **GORGEOUS DISPLAY GARDENS** of the Spring Home/Garden Show
- ❖ Meet the very creative Garden Masters & learn about their wonderful exhibits
- ❖ Mingle with Garden Masters, judges & garden lovers
- ❖ Celebrate **CHUCK ADES**, Horticulturist of the Year
- ❖ Be there as we announce the **Garden Master Awards**
- ❖ Enjoy yummy hors d'oeuvres plus a lavish **CHOCOLATE FOUNTAIN**
- ❖ Wander at your leisure without the crowds

Members/\$35, Non-members \$45

**Ticket Info:**  
**sdhortsoc.org**  
(760) 295-7089

SAN DIEGO  
HORTICULTURAL  
SOCIETY



## San Diego Horticultural Society Meetings 2nd Monday of each month

6 - 9 pm ❖ Free Admission, Everyone Welcome!  
Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds

Join us for a guest speaker, plant sales, plant display.

Meetings are open to all. Membership brings you:

- ❖ Monthly 26-page newsletter
- ❖ Trips to outstanding gardens
- ❖ 36% off *Pacific Horticulture* magazine
- ❖ Nursery discounts
- ❖ Lending library: books & videos
- ❖ And much more!

### FREE MEETINGS:

#### January 14: Lessons from Chelsea

Nan Sternman leads us to England's Chelsea Flower Show to discuss water limitations, invasive plants, global warming and home-grown edibles. She'll also autograph her book, *California Gardener's Guide: Volume II*.

#### Feb. 11: *Elegant Silvers: Striking Plants for Every Garden*

Karen Bussolini will share insights from her book, *Elegant Silvers: Striking Plants for Every Garden*. Silver foliage adorns many plants which love our climate and which add beauty to every style of garden.

**Info: sdhortsoc.org or (760) 295-7089**

**"GREEN" is Red Hot! - A FREE Garden Tour**  
Saturday, February 16, 9:00am - 3:00pm

FREE tour of 3 unique sites in Kearny Mesa: two water-thrifty gardens and a "green roof." Repeating lectures at each site at 9:00am, 11:00am and 1:00pm; plant sales at 2 sites.

9601 Ridgehaven Ct. ❖ 7922 Armour St. ❖ 4677 Overland Ave.

**Info: www.sdhortsoc.org or (619) 741-1090**



# Growing Camellias in Southern California

By Dorothy Carroll

One of San Diego's winter blooming "stars" in the garden is the camellia. The genus *Camellia* includes about 80 species, of which several are used as ornamental plants (a couple are used commercially). These leathery-leaved evergreen flowering trees and shrubs are native to southern and eastern Asia, and have been cultivated in China, Japan and Korea for centuries. They are easy to grow in Southern California with a little extra care, some shade and plenty of organic mulch.

## History

The camellia was named for Georg Josef Kamel (1661-1706), a Jesuit pharmacist born in Bruno, Moravia who botanized from 1688 onwards in Luzon in the Philippines. In 1704, he wrote an account of the plants under his Latinized name, Camellus. In his reference works, Linnaeus also named the flower for Georg Josef Kamel by changing the "k" to a "c" to fit the Latin alphabet, which has no "k."

The camellia made its first appearance in England when sent by James Cunningham, the only survivor of the massacre of East India Tea Company officials in 1705. It seems, however, that Lord Petre—then called "the best botanist in England"—actually killed the lone camellia when he tried to grow it in a greenhouse that was too hot. Fortunately, his gardener James Gordon, had taken cuttings of the camellia, which survived.

The camellia arrived in America in the late 18th century and has been admired and propagated here for over 200 years. According to E. C. (Gene) Snooks, President of the San Diego Camellia Society, "the camellias first entered the United States in New Jersey. However, they soon became so popular and so much a part of the Southern gardens that they were almost considered a 'native' in the South." The frost-free climate, ample rain and slightly acidic soil proved an ideal environment for naturalization.

## Commercial Camellia Products

*Camellia sinensis* was treasured for centuries in China, long before it was ever brought west. It is the source of dried leaves for tea, and as such is the most commercially viable species of camellia. Grown here occasionally as an ornamental plant, its flowers may be white or pink, and it's dense, glossy dark green evergreen foliage can be a useful ornamental hedge plant. Left on its own, it may grow to a height of 50 feet.

Tea oil is another camellia product crushed from the seeds. Tea oil is harvested principally from *C. sinensis* and *C. oleifera*.

## Beautiful Ornamentals

Most of the camellias grown in America come from three distinct species: *C. japonica*, *C. sasanqua* and *C. reticulata*.

*C. japonica* is the most popular, and presents a wide variety of colors: red, white, pink and yellow, as well as variegated blossoms. Bloom-time is late winter and early spring. They are easy to grow in shade and semi-shade. The roots are not invasive, so they're well suited to group plantings with other plants and are an ideal foundation shrub. Leaves are a glossy bright green and the plants produce four-inch flowers. For a short period of time, *C. japonica* will tolerate temperatures down to 10° F; conversely, foliage will scorch if it's too hot and dry.

Plant *C. japonica* four to eight feet apart where they receive no direct sun after 11 a.m. Water consistently and never let the soil completely dry out. After about two years in the ground, *C. japonica* will be established and will tolerate dryer conditions. Try to find a happy medium—not too wet, and not too dry—and your *Camellia japonica* will thrive. Prune only when it gets overgrown.

Occasional bud drop may be the result of unfavorable temperatures, stress of inconsistent moisture, malnutrition, frost, mites or even root rot. None of these are common problems with camellias, however, and a regular schedule of feeding and watering usually will prevent or eliminate the problem.

*Camellia sasanqua*, originally from southern Japan, is the hardiest of the species. They bloom from fall to early spring, and will tolerate temperatures to 0° F. They are the most sun-tolerant of the camellias and can survive hot, dry climate, though they thrive in the shade. Their flowers are smaller than *C. japonica*, averaging only three inches in diameter. They make up for this by being more prolific bloomers than *C. japonica* or *C. reticulata*. Colors are from white to pink to light red and variegated. They come in single, semi-double and double forms. Best of all, they are fragrant.

*C. sasanqua* is a bush form of easy-maintenance shrubs growing to about three feet high by four feet wide. Grow them in the ground, in containers as patio trees, in hanging baskets or as low spreading shrubs. The sasanquas have numerous blooms all up and down the stem and have lots of color. If you'd like a beautiful and colorful display, you can also espalier *C. sasanqua* against a wall or fence. They require very little care.

According to Gene Snooks, *C. reticulata* is a newer species, introduced from China around 1957. They have larger, more open blooms but the plants are very "leggy." Hybrids are specified as *reticulata* if they are a *reticulata* cross.

## Flower Forms

Camellia flowers are described by their form and each is distinctive. Single has one row of petals surrounding a center cluster of well-exposed stamens. Semi-double has two or more layers of petals. Camellia semi-doubles are broken down into the Anemone and the Peony forms. Anemone has a mass in the middle consisting of petaloids (small clustered petals) and stamens mixed together. In the Peony form, the center stands higher and contains the mix of stamens and petals. The Rose-Double form has many layers of regular and overlapping petals and shows small stamens in the middle when fully open. The Formal Double form is similar except it never shows stamens.

## Getting Started

In addition to purchasing camellias through quality local nurseries, there are three ways new plants are produced:

- 1) Grafting scions, or small sections, of the parent onto another rootstock results in plants identical to the parent.
- 2) Seeds produce plants which have varied characteristics, even if from the same parents.
- 3) Sports are wayward offshoots from the parent with different characteristics on that section of the plant, such as color or foliage. These are usually grafted to produce additional plants.

Gene Snooks grows a lot of his camellias in pots. The following are his personal opinions on the care and culture of camellias, backed by many years of success. By growing in pots you have better control of the water and fertilizer. Never let them dry out completely. The plant may come back once, but if it dries out more than once, you'll probably lose the plant.

Camellias prefer loose soil, high in organics. To plant them in the ground, dig a hole two times the diameter and two times as deep as the root system of the plant. Use agricultural gypsum to break down the soil in the ground. Mr. Snooks recommends three handfuls mixed with the soil fill dirt. He adds, "I like to use one-half regular soil and one-half redwood compost. I prefer the redwood compost to peat moss."

Plant with the soil of the root ball mounded two inches above the ground level and mulch with pine needles or redwood chips. This forces the roots down into the ground instead of encouraging them to move up seeking the sun.

If you keep your camellias in containers, transplant them incrementally as they grow. Don't go from a one gallon pot to a five gallon pot right away or you'll lose your plant. It takes time to move up from one pot size to another. Go from a one-gallon to a two-gallon, then next time from a two to a three-gallon, and so forth.

Mr. Snooks strongly recommends not using commercial fertilizers on camellias. "Tell them to use nothing but cottonseed meal on their camellia plants. Some growers use five percent blood meal, but blood meal is 'hotter' and unless you're very careful and know what you're doing, you can burn your plant and kill it. Stick with the cottonseed meal, available at most good nurseries."

For best success, apply the cottonseed meal three times a year. Good target dates are St. Patrick's Day, Memorial Day and the Fourth of July. Use a couple tablespoons per gallon of pot size. You cannot kill your camellia plant with cottonseed meal, but more is not necessarily better.

Regular watering, especially using pot culture, is critical. Mr. Snooks strongly emphasizes that growers, "never, never let your plant dry out." Be consistent when watering. You can check the need for water by lifting the pot. If it feels heavy, the soil probably has enough water. If the pot feels light, it probably needs water. Keep your plants evenly moist—not wet. If the plant seems root bound, you can use a fork to loosen the roots a bit. Again, he stressed the importance that you never let your plant dry out or "you'll pay the consequences with lost blooms and perhaps a lost plant that year."

Those with camellias planted in the garden should observe these guidelines, as well. In ground plants have stronger and more extensive root systems, but still need regular water, regular fertilizer and benefit from a layer of mulch.

## Pests and Diseases

Camellias are not very susceptible to insects and diseases. However, the major disease is petal blight. Petal blight is caused by a one to two inch mushroom that puts out thousands of spores. The spores splash on the camellia plants in the winter rains causing bud rot and, if the buds open at all, the petals to decay to a brown and mushy texture. Blooms fall on the ground and if they are not picked up right away they host more spores. The spores on the ground form sclerotia that can stay dormant for up to five years. Then when the weather is right—cool and wet—the mushroom develops, sends out its spores and the cycle repeats.

"There's no cure for petal blight," said Mr. Snooks. "The only way to help control it is to remove any blighted blooms and pick them up right away as they fall off your plants before they rot." Last year, he picked up 8,834 blooms off the ground at his home—an actual journal count. Also, remove all mulch annually and replace it with fresh material.

It is important never to throw the blooms and old mulch into your 'green' trash. Pick them up, put them in a plastic bag, seal it and put it in your regular garbage. Encourage your neighbors do the same thing. Removing and destroying the damaged blooms to the main landfill prevents the spores from recycling back through compost to recur in your yard or anyone else's.

Petal blight will not destroy camellia plants, the damage is only unsightly and undeveloped blossoms. After all, you grow the plants for their beautiful bloom, and petal blight can ruin some to all of the blossoms on the plant.

An alternative preventive measure is to cover the soil with a 6"-12" deep bed of pine needles or redwood bark. The mushroom spores that cause the petal blight will not normally penetrate such a deep layer. Ask your neighbors if you can bag up pine needles from under their pine trees if you don't have any. They'll probably be happy to get rid of the pine needles and your camellias will definitely benefit.

As for other pests, "in spring, it's looper worms. They eat



the new, soft camellia growth," said Mr. Snooks. "A sharp eye, a squish and you shouldn't have much problem with looper worms after that. Occasionally mites get into the plants, but they don't seem to be much of a problem. You'll rarely get scale on camellias in San Diego."

## Quick Tips

- Buy Camellia plants while in bloom. Select plants with a moderate number of buds. Plants with too many bloom buds are expending too much energy.
- Look for live growth buds (pointed shaped buds) versus bloom buds (fat, round buds) near the base of leaves. These will produce next year's blooms.
- Disbud. Pinch off all but one bloom bud per stem end for larger, more evenly shaped blooms. Multiple buds have the share the plant energy and are smaller.
- Buds that drop before they open are a result of: a) irregular, inconsistent watering. b) variety—some tend to drop their blooms before they open, especially C. 'Elegans'.
- Increase shade by using 50 percent shade cloth overhead. Informal experiments suggest red shade cloth enhances camellias.

**On the cover:**

***Camellia* 'Snow Flurry'**

**Photo: Rachel Cobb**

# Best in Show

The first weekend in February you can see hundreds of camellias in all forms, colors and shapes, courtesy of the San Diego Camellia Society and their annual camellia show. Just mark your calendars for Saturday, February 2 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, February 3 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and plan to attend; it is free and is open to the public in Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Members of the SDCS will be there to answer your questions about growing camellias. If you bring clippings and blooms, they'll also try to identify them for you. There will be many camellia plants available for sale. This is the premier place in San Diego for you to go and find out more about camellias.

Additionally, if you grow camellias, you're invited, and welcomed, to bring specimen blooms and put them on display. You never know, your camellias might win one of the many prizes awarded by the club. Several panels of Certified Camellia Judges will examine each specimen bloom exhibited, and based on their evaluation, they'll indicate the awards. Top awards in past years included silver trays or, in recent years, crystal awards. Want to know how to go about entering the show? Here are eight requirements and helpful hints.

1. Specimens must be grown by the exhibitor.
2. Strive for blooms with no blemishes on the flower petals or free of major blemishes.
3. Look for nicely shaped blooms. The best blooms are well rounded and evenly shaped.
4. Cut blooms while it's relatively cool. They last longer.
5. After you cut your camellia blossoms, bring them to the show in trays or in boxes, but not in plastic bags.
6. Registration for entries is Saturday, Feb. 2 from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Arrive early, as it takes time to register, get your blooms labeled and put on display.
7. Bring the names of known varieties of specimens with you for proper registration on the entry card. If you don't know the name, members will try to assist you to identify your camellias.
8. Most importantly enjoy the show and learn more from those who may have more experience.

## For More Information

For more information about camellias, you may contact the American Camellia Society, 100 Masee Lane, Fort Valley, Georgia 31030; phone: 478-967-2358; Fax: 478-967-2083; email: [ask@camellias-accs.org](mailto:ask@camellias-accs.org); or visit their website online at [www.camellias-accs.org](http://www.camellias-accs.org). Information is also available from the Southern California Camellia Society, LA Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave, Arcadia, CA 91007-2697; or visit their website at [www.socalcamellias.org](http://www.socalcamellias.org). Locally, you may contact San Diego Camellia Society, Pres. E.C. (Gene) Snooks; 6114 La Jolla Blvd, La Jolla, CA 92037-6702; or stop in at one of their meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday during November through April in Room 101 at the Casa del Prado in Balboa Park, San Diego, CA.



In ancient times, photos were printed and then were mounted on the wall, pasted into albums or packed into shoeboxes. Later, there were transparencies and lantern-slides that could be projected on a wall or a screen for showing to a larger audience. You can still do these things with digital photos, often much cheaper and with much greater ease than with film. However, digital technology has provided a rapidly evolving array of new methods for managing your photo collection.

For the point-and-shoot photographer, printing has now become very simple. The industry is moving toward making snapshot printing as easy as the Polaroid system used to be.

good book on digital photography will devote many pages to the arcane topic of color management. Synchronization of camera, monitor and printer is an important part of it. It's a complex topic and I only mention it to point out that you can't simply click 'Print' and expect your printer to spit out a faithful rendering of the colors of the original flower.

I still use a printer occasionally to send snapshots of the grandchildren to family and friends who refuse to use a computer. If I wanted to frame and mount an especially fine flower photo, I'd probably have it printed by a professional laboratory. Most of the time I look at my photos on the computer monitor. Its brilliant 30-inch display is hard for any print to

# Digital Photography by Arthur Dawson *in the Garden*

## PART V: PRINTING, SHARING AND STORING YOUR PHOTOS

You can take the memory card out of the camera and place it in a slot on the printer or you can connect the camera directly to the printer so that there is no need for a computer. Some printers will display your photo and allow some limited editing before you print it. That's all very fine for snapshots taken at a party but I submit that it won't do for a serious flower photographer.

If you're planning to print your own photos, make sure that you have a true photo printer. The manufacturers sell printers and razors on the same principle, the profit being in the blades. Your biggest expense will be for ink cartridges. Therefore, if you do a lot of printing you should buy a laser printer for term papers, tax returns, etc. and keep your photo printer only for photography.

Whether you use glossy or matte paper is a matter of preference. Though matte paper is cheaper, your final cost is about the same because matte paper absorbs more ink. It is less susceptible to scratches and other imperfections but many people prefer the more vibrant colors of glossy.

I've already discussed the problems you meet when translating colors from the original flower to the pixels recorded by the photosensitive elements of your camera and then to the display on your computer monitor. Printing involves a further step when the hues displayed on your screen have to be matched by the four to six colors of ink available to the printer. Any

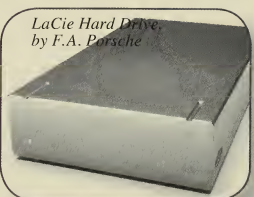


match. There are many programs that will quickly let you display a collection of images as a slideshow. If you have a high definition TV you can provide an even more expanded view to share with friends, while an LCD projector can show your work on a screen to a larger audience.

Email is a great way to send photos to friends and family. The large files that you keep in your collection may be too big to send as attachments, especially if the receiver is still using a dial-up modem. If you intend only to view them on a computer then they can be shrunk to a more manageable size by decreasing the resolution and the "quality." There is software that can convert an image to a form suitable for posting on the web with no need to calculate pixels per inch and such nerdy things. Online photo services such as Shutterfly ([www.shutterfly.com](http://www.shutterfly.com)) and Flickr ([www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)) will let you upload your shots to their server where you can allow your friends access to them. They make their money by charging for the prints that visitors order. Finally, you can post photos on your own "web album." Software such as Google's Picasa (<http://picasa.google.com>) makes this extremely easy.

Once the digital bug bites you'll soon find yourself with a large collection of photos occupying many gigabytes of mass storage. Computers are at risk of fire and theft, and hard drives often fail. You need a secure system of backups to preserve your priceless collection. It seems that almost nobody backs up as consistently as he should until he experiences disaster at first hand. I learned an expensive lesson a dozen years ago when both my primary hard drive and my backup removable drive failed on the same day. I was able to save the essential files with the aid of a data recovery service but it took a painful bite out of my research funds.

Black and white film photos, as prints or negatives, have been successfully archived for generations. Nobody knows for certain how long modern digital prints can be expected



to last but with the right inks, paper and storage conditions, a century or more seems possible. If you hang them on the wall or the refrigerator they will deteriorate much more rapidly, but you can always go back to your computer and print them again. Or can you?

Digital media are perishable. Estimates of life expectancy vary greatly but you'll read figures like 10 years for magnetic discs, 10 to 30 years for tape and 10 to 100 years for CDs. In practice you're unlikely to be able to preserve your archives for anything like this long without a system of "asset management." In the last couple of decades I've managed my digital files from floppy discs to removable cartridges (do you remember Syquest, Zip and Jaz?) to CDs and finally to hard drives. But, the life expectancy of a hard drive is only 3 to 5 years! You may think this is a big step backward but it's not so. Hard drives are economical, have a massive capacity and they're fast. You can buy an external 500 GB drive for less than \$150 that gives you the storage capacity of over 700 CDs or over 100 DVDs.

There is software available that will back up everything daily or even hourly without you having to do anything once you have set up the schedule. If you've ever tried to archive a big collection of images to optical media you'll understand the advantages of a hard drive. Automatic backup to a remote Internet server is available, but right now it's a bit too expensive for the masses of data you're likely to have in your photo and digital movie collection. If you want offsite storage in case the house burns down, your best bet is probably another external drive.

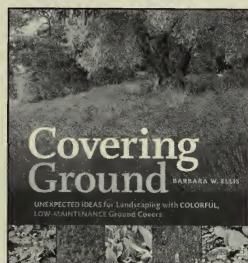
Be sure to keep your digital files in a format that will be around for a while. TIFF and JPEG have such a standard, so that archives using those formats should be readable for many years. On the other hand, I wouldn't want to leave my RAW files in one of the many proprietary formats used by specific camera models. As I discussed in the last article, Adobe's new DNG format should provide some insurance against future obsolescence.

# Reviews

All of the books reviewed in *California Garden* are part of the San Diego Floral Association Library collection (located in Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA). Come, browse—and if you're a SDFA member—check them out!

## ***Covering Ground: Unexpected Ideas for Landscaping with Colorful, Low Maintenance Ground Covers***

By Barbara Ellis  
Storey Publishing  
\$30 (hardcover), \$20 (paperback), 224 pages



Get new ideas for using ground cover in this informative tome.

illustrated with excellent photographs of both plants for identification purposes and as used in a variety of landscape situations. *Covering Ground* is suitable for the novice to experienced gardener and could be considered a permanent reference in your library.

The book is divided into chapters dealing with getting started, choosing the right plants and then putting them into the garden, keeping them growing and propagating for more.

I found the organization of plants very helpful—categorized by sun/shade exposure, size, wet or acidic soil. Some plants are classified by what effect the gardener would like to achieve; in other words, placing ground cover in a woodland garden, amongst paths and stepping stones, on slopes, in dry or wet soils, etc. Plant selections include vines and shrubs as well, far extending the gardeners choice of plants beyond what we commonly think of as ground covers. Each plant identification includes Latin and common names, exposure needs, size and cultivation tips. There is even a chapter on heaths and heathers. Along with site preparation basics, there's information on edging to control the plants as well as purchasing and installation (different than dealing with a single plant).

The book is basically concerned with landscape solutions. Unfortunately, there's no discussion of problem identification and solving when it comes to care of ground covers. Perhaps the plants discussed within are of such a broad range that it

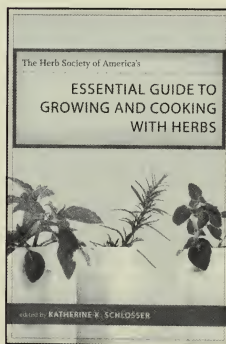
*Covering Ground: Unexpected Ideas for Landscaping with Colorful, Low Maintenance Ground Covers* is one of the most comprehensive, helpful and beautifully designed books I have ever seen on the subject of ground cover. A writer, editor and lifelong gardener, Ms. Ellis speaks to the reader effectively through her book. The book is profusely

wouldn't be possible to do within this one book. The Resource page lists only a few names.

As ground covers are what most gardeners turn to when nothing else seems to work, or to bring our landscapes together, *Covering Ground* will provide many refreshing ideas on the use of an often overlooked, or at least over walked, plant category.—Linda Starr

## ***Essential Guide to Growing and Cooking with Herbs***

Edited by Katherine K. Schlosser  
Louisiana State University Press  
\$30 (hardcover), 376 pages



An excellent herb how-to for all gardeners.

This is a “how-to” book. It is an assemblage of the history, characteristics, derivation and places of origin of over 75 different herbs. The latter half of the book contains recipes collected from various herbal society members.

The general tone of the book is conversational, as most of the contents have been submitted by home gardeners and cooks just like your neighbors. It is also reference for those of us who have small patio and balcony gardens. One

could extrapolate the picking of and cooking with these herbs to a tour of herb growing and processing the world over.

The recipes are great. They are down-to-earth and very suitable for your home kitchen. The same is true of the horticultural requirements. There is none of the fancy ultra-detailed specification of the ingredients, such as an over-emphasis on “extra virgin” olive oil that fancy magazines and newspapers contain!

The Herb Society of America—which sponsors this book—has existed for seventy-four years and has over 2,300 members. It is associated with the National Arboretum.—Robert D. Horowitz.



## Gardening with Children

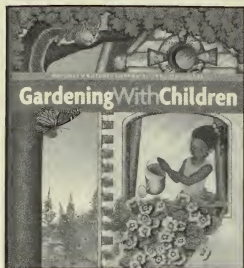
Brooklyn Botanic Garden All-Region Guide

By Monika Hanneman, Patricia Hulse,

Brian Johnson, Barbara Kurland and

Tracey Patterson

\$9 (paperback), 120 pages



Get kids started in the garden early with this book.

The memories of childhood often travel with us throughout our lifetime, and one's early experiences may translate into an enduring interest and joy. Brooklyn Botanic Garden's new book, *Gardening with Children*, will take the reader from a simple window box to the living soil in a home or community garden. It is packed with information

vital to understanding plant life and stimulating activities for children to enjoy. An appreciation of the interrelation of plants, animals and human needs is clearly explained in sections like Gardening through the Season, Traveling with Plants, a Butterfly Garden, Feeding Hummingbirds and Nature's Lunchbox. Stimulating activities are included with each learning concert to reinforce the knowledge and provide a fun experience for the young learner. The Living Soil encourages a "soil search." In Friends or Foe (creatures in the garden), building a scarecrow is suggested. Photosynthesis, the food chain, pollination, composting, flower structure

with directions to build a terrarium and composter are also presented.

Having been a teacher for many years I can see how this guide could start any child on the path to a lifetime hobby, and provide a thorough guide to help a loving parent pass on a legacy to his or her children.—Kay Harry

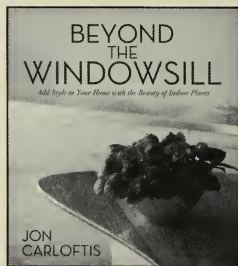
## Beyond the Windowsill: Add Style to Your Home with the Beauty of Indoor Plants

By Jon Carloftis

Cool Springs Press

\$25 (paperback), 191 pages

A garden designer who has made rooftop gardens in New York City his main claim to fame, the author presents indoor plants as accessories in a variety of handsome interiors. He regards plants as essential elements of life in any room, while demonstrating that they can also serve a practical purpose. His examples include the ability of houseplants to provide privacy, create a



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mood or showcase an attractive view. One chapter is devoted to before and after photos while another provides guidance for selecting the right plant for the right place and suggestions for a variety of interesting containers.

The main part of the book presents a survey of his favorite interior plants, many of which are also found in Southern California gardens. A full page is devoted to each one, with handsome photos, growing tips, design tips and related trivia included. A chapter on selecting plants for specific types of interiors features photos that, for this reader, had more architectural and interior design interest than horticultural information. Harking back to his own childhood, Carloftis encourages the use of terrariums and aquariums as a way of getting children involved with indoor plants. Common planting techniques and care basics round out the text.

—Marge Howard-Jones

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# Now is the time

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Timely tips to  
keep your plants  
happy throughout  
January and February

## African Violets

**Barbara Conrad, Carlsbad African Violet Society**

- Brush leaves with a soft brush to remove dust.
- Wash plants if needed. Try putting tin foil under lower leaves and around pot. Lean plant under warm water at sink, then use a brush or gently rub leaves with fingers. Dry droplets of water, particularly in centers of plants, using a paper towel to remove moisture.
- Refrain from placing violets in direct sunlight until completely dry to avoid burning leaves, resulting in spotty discoloration.
- Avoid placing plants in cold or drafty areas, which could stunt growth.
- Place violets where morning sun comes into an area, with some air circulation to promote growth and avoid mildew.
- Rotate plants a quarter turn weekly to maintain symmetry in leaves.

## Begonias

**Doris Smith, Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society**

- Be diligent in removing dead leaves and debris from beds or pots.
- Be watchful for pests, and spray for mildew.
- Go for the tuberous types in February and begin pruning others.
- Trim old growth and cut back so new canes can be started from the cuttings.
- Repot; up one size is the usual rule.
- Water less, but not allow to dry out.

## Bonsai

**Kora Dalager, San Diego Bonsai Club**

- Wire your conifer and evergreen trees.
- Graft conifers, deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Adjust watering to winter weather conditions.
- Apply lime sulfur or other dormant spray, protecting the soil and pots from spray.
- Prune fruit-bearing bonsai.
- Watch for aphids and other sucking insects and spray accordingly.
- Search nurseries for deciduous stock.
- Prepare your soil mix for repotting.
- Prepare for repotting in February.

## Bromeliad

**Mary Siemers, Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park**

- Do not water as often during the cold weather.
- Collect rainwater for future use.
- Continue to watch out for freezing temperatures. When they occur, cover plants with an old sheet or other similar material (do not use plastic covering). You may want to bring some of your favorite and more sensitive plants indoors. Do not place plants in front of heating ducts. Keep center cup filled with fresh water.
- Enjoy the fantastic cascade inflorescence in your variety of genus billbergia, many of which will bloom this time of year.

## Cacti and Succulents

**Joyce Buckner, The Plant Man Nursery in Old Town**

- Keep all of your succulent plants much drier than usual during cold weather. Water expands when it freezes, and a succulent plant laden with moisture will implode should it encounter a freeze. Additionally, roots that stay cold and wet too long attract rot and viruses.
- Water sparingly during the early part of a sunny day when nighttime temperature goes below 50 degrees Fahrenheit. Stop watering when temperatures fall below about 40 degrees F.
- Do not fertilize Adeniums, Pachypodiums, Plumerias, Lithops, most cacti and euphorbias (including Crown of Thorns), as they are winter dormant plants. (You'll want to keep them dry.) Let them take a nap and perhaps even lose some or all of their leaves. Clean up old leaves, dead weeds and debris as they fall; don't give the rats, cockroaches, mold and fungi a place to hide.
- Give winter water to hanging plants (including Christmas Cactus) and many early spring growing succulents (i.e. Dudleyas, Aeoniums, Sedums, Senecios and many Aloes and bulbs); these plants need some winter water, especially in Santa Ana conditions: warm winds and no rain.
- Wait until spring to fertilize, even with the winter growers.
- Assess your garden's drainage. Winter dormant and water sensitive succulents need to be kept away from rain gutters and low spots.
- Plant rosette succulents, like dudleyas, aloes, agaves and echeverias at a slight angle, so the leaves won't hold excess water. This also works for many cacti, like Golden Barrels.
- Check your containers. Tables develop low spots that hold water for extended periods and saucers may be okay in the summer, yet should not be used in the winter.
- Protect your plants from slugs and snails. Here in San Diego, it may not rain cats and dogs, but it certainly does rain slugs and snails. Slugs have a real appetite for tender young seedlings, along with your most precious (and expensive) plants. Use some form of snail and slug control after a rainstorm, if needed.

• Protect the growing tips with cloth or paper/cardboard if frost is likely. Do not use plastic. A friend of ours, who lives in the mountains where it sometimes snows, dresses his cactus in old sweatshirts and blue jeans. His magnificent cactus garden is living proof that this method works quite well. Also a string of Christmas lights can provide just enough warmth to protect your favorite plants from frostbite.

## Camellias

**Kathy Taylor de Murillo, Bonita Valley Garden Club**

- Buy plants in bloom. Some variegated camellias that do well in San Diego are Ay-Ay-Ay, a japonica with red and white striped flowers and yellow stamens; Daikagura, an early blooming japonica with peonylike blooms of red with white splotches; Adolphe Audusson Special, a medium-height japonica with white splotches on red flowers and some yellow on the leaves; Guilio Nuccio Variegated, a japonica with large coral rose flowers blotched with white; Tama-No-Ura, a japonica with naturally occurring red flowers bordered in white; and Frank Hauser Variegated, a reticulata hybrid with rose flowers blotched in white.
- Plant or transplant camellias. Always transplant camellias when they are blooming. Most prefer part shade with northern or eastern exposure to the sun. If planted in an area with south or west exposure, it is necessary to use some type of shade, preferably with 50 percent protection from the sun.
- Continue feeding in January with a low-nitrogen fertilizer, such as 0-10-10, and iron. Adding gypsum helps prevent tip burn.
- Protect from petal blight by picking up dead blooms and leaves from around the plant daily.
- Continue to disbud if you desire larger yet fewer blooms.
- Continue to water. Many camellias planted under canopies do not receive the proper watering from winter rains alone.

## Dahlia

**Dave Tooley, San Diego Dahlia Society**

- Dig up any tubers left in the ground. By early January, the tops of any remaining plants should be completely withered; cut the tops down to just above the ground.
- Store tubers without dividing in a cool place in vermiculite or sand, leaving on the soil that clings to them from their earlier removal from the ground.
- Inspect all tubers stored earlier for any sign of shriveling. If the tuber looks dry, add a little moisture. Throw away any tubers that

show rotting; rotted tubers will appear watery, or be mushy to the touch.

- Prepare the planting bed in February by turning the soil, adding humus and fumigating. You'll want to dig in humus and add equal parts of superphosphate and sulfate of potash. Turn the mixture over well, and then add fertilizer two or three weeks before planting.
- Sprout some selected roots in February, as these sprouts make good cuttings. If having trouble, apply bottom heat to encourage sprouting.

## Epiphyllums

**Mildred Mikas, San Diego Epiphyllum Society**

- Take advantage of beneficial rains, and collect the rainwater for future use. Store in opaque containers to prevent infestation of mosquito larvae and buildup of algae.
- Protect plants from frost and strong winter winds.
- Bait for snails and slugs.
- Spray insecticide only if necessary. Do not use oil-base types. Use Orthene, malathion and Cygon available locally (read and follow directions carefully).
- Prune out dead and unsightly growth, allowing more energy to be used by newer and healthier branches.
- Feed mature plants with a 0-10-10 fertilizer to promote blooming in spring. Use liquid or slow-release granules. Another application may be necessary in about 30 days.

## Ferns

**Sherry Worthen, San Diego Fern Society**

- Water gently but do not soak. Most ferns are not growing much now. Save rainwater for plants which don't get it naturally. It will leach out salts.
- Trim off dead fronds but not green ones. Most small leaf Maidenhairs can be cut back completely.
- Fertilize Platyceriums (Staghorns) with high nitrogen fertilizer. They are starting to grow. Don't use slow release pellets.
- Remove and remount Platycerium pups.
- Sow spores.

## Fruit Trees and Vines

**Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension**

- Finish pruning dormant deciduous trees and vines before leaf buds start to grow.
- Prune evergreens just before or when new growth begins.
- Spray dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil before buds begin to open to control overwintering insect pests.
- Spray dormant peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) before buds begin to open to control leaf curl.
- Learn more about pest management at [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu).
- Plant dormant bare-root trees and vines.
- Paint the trunks with whitewash to protect the bark from sunburn injury (use equal parts water and white interior flat latex paint).



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## Herbs

### John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Make a cup of mint tea fresh from the garden. If you don't have any in the garden, plant some.
- Fertilize your herb garden. Use compost, earthworm castings, kelp, manure and peat moss. Add gypsum if you have a clay soil.
- Plant aloe, parsley, dill, borage, calendula, rosemary and sage, and plant native herbs such as white sage, black sage, California poppy and yerba santa.
- Prune and lace your deciduous herbal shrubs and trees. These include rose, chaste tree, ginkgo, lemon verbena and elderberry.

## Iris

### Leon Vogel, San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- Fertilize again for the spring burst of blooms.
- Check for aphids that hid all winter at base of leaves.
- Discard all dead leaves and weeds.
- Check to see if all labels properly correspond to the appropriate iris clumps.
- Keep them watered if a dry winter.
- Foliar-feed for bigger and brighter blooms.

## Native Plants

### John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Plant wildflower seeds, like California bluebells, Chinese houses, farewell to spring, mountain garland, goldfields and California poppy.
- Plant your new, or formerly potted, native plants. Dig a hole and fill with water several times, amend soil slightly and plant the root ball so that it is an inch or two higher than existing soil level. Cover with soil to create a little mound. Water again with a spray.
- Hose down your native garden once a week until the rainy season kicks in.

## Orchids

### Christopher Croom, San Diego Orchid Society

- Give most deciduous and cooler-growing Dendrobium species and Nobile-type hybrids a dry winter rest throughout January.
- Look for spikes on winter-blooming Cattleyas (*C. labiata*, etc.) in January.
- Look for and train developing spikes on Phalaenopsis, especially those that you left outside in the fall until nighttime temperatures dropped to 55 degrees F to initiate reblooming and then brought inside. Enjoy Phalaenopsis flowers if they're blooming for you already.
- Watch for rotting plants and rotting mixes, especially if we get a lot of rain in January. Repot plants when any signs of rot occur and dust any affected areas (of the plant, not the mix) with sulfur.
- Enjoy Cymbidium season as many of your plants continue to bloom.

- Look for new growths and think about gradually increasing water if plants start showing you signs of faster growth in February.
- Be vigilant about protecting outdoor plants from nighttime moisture and continue watering before noon.
- Look for developing spikes on spring-blooming Cattleyas and Oncidiums in February so that you can protect them from insect damage.
- Beware that as temperatures increase and your plants become more productive, so do insect pests. More bugs breed and hatch when it's warmer.
- Collect rainwater with a barrel on your downspout to use on your plants. All orchids love rainwater.

## Pelargoniums

### Jim Zemcik, San Diego Geranium Society

- Water thoroughly and on a regular schedule. Plants tend to become somewhat dry in the winter. Allow the excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible. Relocate potted plants to a sheltered location if there is a prolonged rain.
- Continue feeding with a good commercial fertilizer. Use at one-third to one-half of the labels recommended strength. Apply at two-week intervals.
- Continue a pest-control and disease prevention program. Use all products according to the manufacturers' instructions. Try one of the new combination products that contain both an insecticide and fungicide and will treat with one application.
- Top-pinch any plants that were not previously cut back. When the stems start to leaf out, cut them back to one-half the stem length.
- Make cuttings from the prunings. Try rooting in straight perlite. Shelter the cuttings from extreme weather; placing them in a warm location will produce roots more rapidly.
- Protect plants from freezing. Temporary coverings may be used.
- Continue to rotate plants to keep them well-shaped.

## Plumeria

### Frank Zotter, Southern California Plumeria Society

- Protect plumeria from any frost; this is important because it only takes one night to ruin a plant (as was experienced last year). In a frost-prone area, move the plants inside or to the garage.
- Move plants next to a building or under the patio to protect from excess rain.
- Top-off pots with as much mulch as possible—a protection from cold and rain.
- Do not fertilize, and sparingly water those plants that still have leaves if drought conditions continue.

## Roses

### Al Heck, San Diego Rose Society

- Maintain a complete calendar of procedures you follow in preparing/maintaining/feeding your roses. The work you do now is the basis of your success or failure in the rose garden.
- Strip any foliage remaining on your bushes and rake and clean up the beds. If you have given your bushes dormant spray in late December, you will be wise to repeat it, weather permitting. This

will do a lot to prevent overwintering spores of mildew and rust. Roses grown away from other plants are easier to maintain, as they require a regular routine of feeding, watering and cleanliness. Many problems can be controlled by hosing your roses off early in the morning.

- Plant new bushes in holes you prepared earlier. If planting a new rose as a replacement, you will be well-advised to supplement the planting mix with soil taken from another area of the garden, along with superphosphate at the bottom of the hole. If the weather is hot and dry, mound soil or mulch up around the canes and keep damp with frequent sprinkling.
- Prune established hybrid teas mid-January through Valentine's Day.
- Feed new plants with liquid fertilizer when bushes have a full set of leaves. These new bushes may be the first to bloom and, after verifying you have the correct plant, break off the bloom, leaving the new growth intact.
- Apply rose food to established bushes in early February. A cup of alfalfa meal or pellets worked into the drip basin will help get your bushes off to a good start. Frequent small feedings will produce continuous blooms and beautiful roses throughout the year.
- Maintain moisture level at all times by filling your water basins at least twice a week.
- Watch for the first signs of aphids on the new growth and knock them off with a strong stream of water from the hose.
- Control mildew by washing off foliage in the early morning or spray weekly with a fungicide.
- Finger prune when multiple buds break on the canes, leaving only the strongest to promote strong growth.
- Maintain a clear area around your bushes to discourage rust fungus, which will show up on the undersides of the leaves when present. Keep infected leaves picked off and dispose of in closed containers.
- Prune hybrid teas, shrubs and climbers by January 31.

## Vegetables

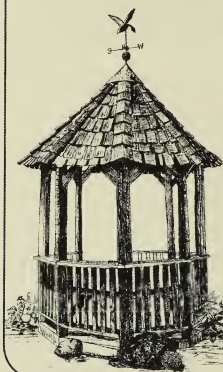
Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor,  
UC Cooperative Extension

- Continue planting cool-season vegetables where frost seldom occurs. Cool-season vegetables include beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, peas, potatoes (white), radish, rutabaga and turnip.
- Use floating row cover fabric on seeded and transplanted crops to accelerate their growth.
- Plant dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus and rhubarb.
- Plant seeds of medium-day-length onions such as White Sweet Spanish, Stockton Yellow Globe and Italian Red (short storage life) during February for bulbs in late summer.
- Order seeds of warm season vegetables for planting in the spring.

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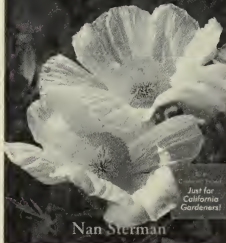
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# Winter Wonderland: Southern California in Bloom

By Lucy Warren

**S**outhern California is a very special place, for our mild Mediterranean climate accommodates a global palette of exceptional plants—many too tender to thrive in other areas. For well over a century now, horticulturists (both professional and amateur) have experimented with growing interesting plants here. We now host exotics from Europe, Asia, Africa, the Americas, Australia and assorted island nations. We can choose the best of the best and we can garden year round.

After the holidays, when the rest of the world is hunkering down to pore over the spring gardening catalogs, hiding from the snow outside, we busy ourselves with gardening tasks, as well as enjoy the florals of our labors. Native Southern Californians, and those who have lived here for a long time, often forget our own winter magic.

Those coming from the Midwest or East experience a shock or revelation to look around and appreciate our bright climate. Think of the classic movie *The Wizard of Oz*; while Dorothy was perfectly happy living in Kansas, when she is transported to Oz she opens her eyes to Technicolor!

It's not just our golden yellow sunlight and verdant hills flush from winter rains. Blooming plants provide a background of color—sometimes riotous color, if you look at our freeway onramps. Extravagant swaths of vivid red, pink, orange and magenta bougainvillea climb buildings and fences. In similar tones, azaleas provide bright landscape accents in sun and shade. Ice plants provide brilliant ground cover.

Instructions on seed packets for annual flowers take exception in our climate. While the rest of the country is harvesting the last of their summer crops in autumn, we plant vegetables, native plants and annual flowers to take advantage of our mild, relatively frost-free winter and seasonal rains. From sweet peas to nasturtiums, cool blooming annuals go into the ground for enjoyment winter to spring. January and February are two brilliant months for our garden color.

This is a brief romp touching on just a few of the plants that provide winter color in January and February in Southern California. Some are common, some exotic, but all grow well and augment our visual senses. Use the lists as a starting point to expand your awareness of wonderful winter blooming plants for your own garden and landscape.

## The Big Plants

Trees are the giants of the plant kingdom and when they put on their best bib and tucker, they dress to kill. The most dramatic family of winter blooming trees is *Erythrina*, the coral trees from Africa and South America. These huge trees

are seasonally deciduous. The blossoms of most precede new foliage so when they bloom they are a hit-me-over-the-head firehouse red to red-orange that can't be missed. Many a homeowner has lusted to own one after seeing them in bloom, only to find out a few years later that the tree had outgrown their home and yard. These enthusiastic trees are not for the normal city lot, unless one tree is all you want to grow.

If yellow is your favorite color, you can't beat the Acacias. Consider *Acacia podalyriifolia*, Queensland Silver Wattle, a fast growing small tree to about 15-20 feet, drought tolerant and amenable to any soil type. Strands of golden-yellow puffs accent silver foliage in pure winter drama.

The Hong Kong Orchid Tree, *Bauhinia x blakeana*, is a visual delight with huge, six inch orchid shaped and colored flowers. It blooms when the foliage is sparse, creating a soft cloud of blending orchid-purple shades in the landscape. As a bonus, it will often bloom again in summer. It is a perfect accent tree, and doesn't overwhelm the landscape.

For light shades of blue try the Sky Flower Tree, *Duranta erecta*. Its small, fragrant pale blue flowers continue nearly year round. It has a dense evergreen canopy of glossy green leaves and produces a delightful yellow-orange berry. It's a far more refined and delicate tree than the *Erythrina*, and is guaranteed to bring year-round delight.

The Strawberry Tree, *Arbutus unedo*, produces clusters of light pink, bell-shaped flowers, yet more of its color is demonstrated with its yellow to red strawberry shaped fruits. They are edible, though not very tasty.

For an exotic, drought tolerant, easy-care tree that blooms in winter try *Callistemon viminalis*. It has gray-green foliage and a weeping habit, but most of all distinctive terminal flower clusters that resemble a red bottle brush.

Long-time Californians almost take for granted the background eucalyptus that overtook our landscapes in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century as an enthusiastic, but ultimately failed, timber crop. Take another look in winter and you will find a fascinating and beautiful bloom. This is a large and diverse genus. There are many graceful and elegant species better adapted to smaller landscapes.

## The Drama of Shrubs

Bringing it down to eye-level, who can resist a well-placed shrub in the landscape? Shrubs are the bones and work horses of the yard, providing beauty and a background to seasonal plantings.

One of the most beloved flowering shrubs is the *Camellia japonica*. Native to eastern and southern Asia, these beautiful

evergreen plants were hothouse plants in Europe and in more northern climes, propagated by royalty and the wealthy. They need some extra care and proper placement here, so consider them delicate ladies. Find a sheltered spot where their roots are shaded, prepare the soil prior to planting by mixing in soil sulphur to acidify the soil and fertilize with acid fertilizer. They will reward you with beautiful blossoms in white to red shades in the winter and beautiful glossy green foliage year round. (For more information on camellias, please turn to page 12.)

Azaleas are a branch of the rhododendron family and need similar conditions as camellias, more acidic soil and some sun protection. When they bloom, the entire shrub can turn color, be it white, red, pink, purple or salmon. The rest of the year they have dense dark green foliage. That being said, there is a group of deciduous azaleas native to the Appalachian region. Called "flame" azaleas, they come in shades of yellow, orange and red, but are better suited to cooler, damper climes.

A magnificent family of native plants is *Archtostryphos*, commonly known as manzanita, which displays beautiful white urn-shaped blossoms in the winter. Once established, the manzanitas, which come in many forms and sizes, are drought tolerant—an important consideration in Southern California.

For an exotic or tropical look with large glossy green leaves try *Justicia aurea*, Yellow Brazilian Plume Flower. It's a knockout with large plumes of golden yellow, accented with white tubular flowers. Its cousins are the bright pink *Justicia carnea* and the smaller *Justicia brandegeana*, Shrimp Plant. These plants need regular water and prefer indirect light rather than full sun.

*Tecoma stans*, Yellow Bells, can be trained as a small tree or kept as a large shrub. Put-on-your-sunglasses two-inch trumpet shaped yellow flowers in clusters give the plant its common name.

If you like small, narrow gray-green leaves and soft lavender flowers, you'll love Victorian Rosemary, *Westringia fruticosa*. It doesn't have the fragrance of herbal rosemary but this Australian native mimics its conformation. A tough, drought tolerant shrub, it can be left to grow to its full five to six foot height and five to ten foot width, or it can be hedged or even trimmed into a topiary.

For tenacious color on a beautiful gray-green shrub, the South African *Leucodendron discolor* provides a beautiful, long lasting red inflorescence.

## The Covering Vines

Strong blooming vines provide another flush of color in the landscape. Vines may creep, climb, trail or use tendrils or

holdfasts to cling. Some may stand on their own, but for the most part they use other plants or structures to gain their full height and breadth.

Bougainvillea is strongly identified with Southern California. The multiple varieties are frost-tender but hold their color over a long time. Because of their popularity, there are many new cultivars, but an old standby that is hard to beat is 'San Diego Red.' While it is true that they bloom in this timeframe, most people don't realize they are not seeing the blossoms. That's because the actual flower is a tiny white blossom in the midst of beautiful colored leaves, called bracts. It is these leaves that attract attention, not only from people, but also by the insects that pollinate this Mexican native. Rather than fading and drooping like regular flower petals, the leaves hold their color for months of garden display.

Another dramatic vine is the Cup-of-Gold Vine, *Solandra maxima*. Watch out, this tropical evergreen vine is massive! Think soft bowl-shaped golden yellow flowers larger than a soup plate. They're fragrant at night. Dark green glossy, leathery leaves provide a background for the immense six to eight inch flowers on vines that will stretch out for a full forty feet.

For intense, almost fluorescent orange and prodigious bloom, *Pyrostegia venusta* or Flame Vine is a real drama queen. Clusters of 15-20 tubular three-inch orange flowers cover the dense dark green vine from late fall to early spring.

Sweet smelling, delicate white blossoms backed with rosy tone, proliferate on *Jasminum polyanthum* or Pink Jasmine Vine. It will transport you to China and back again with its sweet beauty.

Lilac Vine, *Hardenbergia violaceae*, is a purple, pink or white blossomed Australian native. It's a tough and vigorous plant with dark green leaves. It's a real head-turner when blooms with hundreds of clusters of pea-like flowers in beautiful purple, and is easy to grow here. 'Happy Wanderer' is an especially good cultivar.

## Color All Around

Once the bones of your garden are in, you are free to play with hundreds of selections of annuals, perennials and even groundcovers. No matter what style of your garden, from traditional formal to country cottage, nativescape to drought tolerant succulents, there are many winter blooming plants to choose from.

Seasonal bedding plants take advantage of our winter rains, many droop and fade away with the heat of our summers. In winter, pansies and other violas, stock, nasturtiums and sweet peas, delight the eyes and senses. Given proper care, some



Bees on a blooming Aloe vanbalinii.



plants such as alstroemeria, gallardia, lantana and native erigeron bloom nearly year round. Reblooming daylilies and iris may grace your garden in winter. Tropical Bird of Paradise, *Strelitzia reginae* seems common now to us, while eastern floral designers would kill for a couple of blossoms.

Gardeners' number one choice of flower is the rose. Since there is no real frost to force them into dormancy, roses will bloom year round, but it is highly recommended that they be cut back near year-end to force a short period of dormancy. That being said, they tend to bloom on a six-week cycle. So, if you prune your roses for the New Year, you will have your first flush of blossoms around the middle of February. Isn't that a nice Valentine!

Bulbs, corms and tubers, by their nature, make brief appearances in our gardens. They are absolutely climate adapted. Many of the traditional bulbs, such as tulips, crocus, narcissus, hyacinths require a period of cold temperatures to trigger their bloom response. Unless you are willing to take the extra effort (and refrigerator space) to chill the bulbs, the results may be quite disappointing. Typically, the plants will grow; they just won't produce flowers, which is the reason you planted them in the first place.

By the way, yes, you can grow narcissus, but stick to the tazetta type. There are seven different kinds of narcissus and most are disappointing here, but the multi-flowered ones thrive from winter to spring.

On the other hand, there is a plethora of bulbs that originated in Mediterranean climates, especially South Africa, which thrive here. You don't even have to dig them up! Just let them bloom and fade away and enjoy them again next year, until they are so crowded in a few years that you give some to your neighbors. Because they are acclimated where the rains come in the winter, that's when they bloom and brighten your garden. You don't even have to water them in the summer, they'd prefer you don't.

Those intriguingly shaped succulents, bless their drought tolerant nature, also respond to winter conditions. Numerous aloes bloom in brilliant displays of red spikes. Aeoniums not only have lovely leaf patterns, but burst out in bright yellow fluorescence. There is a reason why epiphyllums are called Christmas cactus! They come in a rainbow of shades, bloom cycles and sizes.

Winter is to the Southern California gardener what spring is to the rest of the country. Open your eyes and senses and enjoy!

## Winter Bloom List

### BOTANICAL NAME

### COMMON NAME

#### WINTER BLOOMING TREES

<i>Acacia podalyriifolia</i>	Queensland Silver Wattle
<i>Arbutus unedo</i>	Strawberry Tree
<i>Bauhinia x blakeana</i>	Hong Kong Orchid Tree
<i>Callistemon viminalis</i>	Weeping Bottle Brush
<i>Duranta erecta</i>	Sky Flower
<i>Erythrina spp.</i>	Coral Trees
<i>Eucalyptus spp.</i>	Eucalyptus, Gum

#### WINTER BLOOMING SHRUBS

<i>Archostaphylos spp.</i>	Manzanita
<i>Camellia japonica</i>	Camellia
<i>Justicia aurea</i>	Yellow Plume Flower
<i>Leucodendron discolor</i>	Lecodendron
<i>Rhododendron spp.</i>	Azalea
<i>Tecoma stans</i>	Yellow Bells, Trumpet Bush
<i>Westringia fruticosa</i>	Victorian Rosemary

#### WINTER BLOOMING VINES

<i>Bougainvillea glabra</i>	Paper Flower
<i>Hardenbergia violaceae</i>	Lilac Vine
<i>Jasminum polyanthum</i>	Pink Jasmine, Winter Jasmine
<i>Pyrrostegia venusta</i>	Flame Vine, Flaming Trumpet
<i>Solandra maxima</i>	Cup-of-Gold Vine, Chalice Vine
<i>Tecomaria capensis</i>	Cape Honeysuckle

#### WINTER BLOOMING PERENNIALS

<i>Alstroemeria spp.</i>	Inca Lily
<i>Erigeron spp.</i>	Seaside Daisy
<i>Helleborus spp.</i>	Christmas Rose
<i>Heimerocallis spp.</i>	Daylily
<i>Lantana montevidensis</i>	Trailing Lantana
<i>Strelitzia reginae</i>	Tropical Bird of Paradise

#### WINTER BLOOMING ANNUALS

<i>Dimorphotheca spp.</i>	Cape Marigold, African Daisy
<i>Matthiola longipetala</i>	Evening Scented Stock
<i>Molucella laevis</i>	Bells of Ireland
<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	Nasturtium
<i>Viola bicolor</i>	Pansy
<i>Viola spp.</i>	Violet, Johnny-Jump-Up
<i>Nemesia spp.</i>	Nemesia

#### WINTER BLOOMING BULBS/TUBERS

<i>Cyclamen spp.</i>	Cyclamen
<i>Ranunculus</i>	Ranunculus
<i>Narcissus tazetta</i>	Paperwhite, Chinese Sacred Lily
<i>Ipheion uniflorum</i>	Spring Star Flower
<i>Veltheimia bracteata</i>	Forest Lily, Winter Red Hot Poker

#### WINTER BLOOMING SUCCULENTS

<i>Aeonium spp.</i>	Aeonium
<i>Agave spp.</i>	Agave
<i>Aloe spp.</i>	Aloe
<i>Bulbine alooides</i>	Bulbine
<i>Kalanchoe blossfeldiana</i>	Kalanchoe
<i>Lampranthus spp.</i>	Ice Plant

# SDFA Calendar 2008

A listing of the best gardening-related activities in the county for January and February

## January Events

### JANUARY 2

#### PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The Palomar Orchid Society monthly meeting hosts a class for beginners, starting at 6:45 p.m. and a main meeting, which begins at 7:30 (the meeting is free and open to everyone). There will be refreshments, raffles and giveaways.

When: 6:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Where: Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [www.fascinationoforchids.com/sd.html](http://www.fascinationoforchids.com/sd.html)

#### SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING

The San Diego Herb Club meeting is free and open to visitors. The club meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m., with a raffle, refreshments and program to follow.

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [president@sandiegoherbclub.com](mailto:president@sandiegoherbclub.com)

### JANUARY 4

#### VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Vista Garden Club Monthly Meeting begins with lunch at noon; program begins about 1:15 p.m. This month's program will feature Phil Ash, discussing summer rose care. Visitors are welcome.

When: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista, CA

More Information: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)

#### SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego County Orchid Society is holding two meetings: a general meeting, and a novice class for those interested in learning more about orchids. Everyone is welcome!

When: Novice Class at 6:30 p.m., General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 104 (Novice Class), Room 101 (General Meeting), Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

#### CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Carlsbad Garden Club will feature Howard Bishop, IV, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited nature store in Carlsbad; he will discuss how to attract and feed birds in the garden in this free presentation.

When: 1 p.m.

Where: Heritage Hall, Magee Park, 2650 Garfield St., Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [carlsbadgardenclub@hotmail.com](mailto:carlsbadgardenclub@hotmail.com), 760-494-7774

### JANUARY 5

#### SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY MEETING

This is the Southwest Hemerocallis Society monthly meeting.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA

More Information: Club President, Betsy Hamblin, 858-483-5584

#### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN: XERISCAPE: BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPE ON A LOW-WATER BUDGET

Landscape Designer Jan Tubiolo takes the mystery out of Xeriscape landscaping in this class. The workshop includes a classroom lecture and an interpretive tour of the Water Conservation Garden xeriscape garden. There is a \$15 fee for members, and a \$20 fee for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

When: 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.,

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

### JANUARY 7

#### SAN DIEGO MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Join the San Diego Mycological Society as they bring in mushrooms to identify, host guest lecturers and share mushroom recipes and delectables.

When: 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdmyco.org](http://www.sdmyco.org)

#### PALOMAR DISTRICT OF THE CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. MEETING

Learn to create beautiful and simple designs in this Floral Design Forum (Akiko Bourland, a Grand Master in the Ohara School of Ikebana, will be present). Open to anyone interested in floral design. There is an \$8 fee.

When: 12:30 p.m.

Where: Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [www.geocities.com/pgdardenclubs](http://www.geocities.com/pgdardenclubs)

### JANUARY 8

#### AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, A.D. ROBINSON BRANCH MEETING

This is the branch's monthly meeting. Please contact the branch for more details.

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Homes of Members

More Information: Branch President, Doris Smith, 619-222-1294

#### DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

DVGC club meetings involve the discussion of club business, horticultural tips and sharing and critiquing different types of floral designs. In this month's program, Patrick Anderson will discuss gardening with succulents. Visitors are welcome.

When: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center, CA

More Information: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)

#### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Geranium Society Meeting features guest speakers, plant raffles and refreshments; plant cuttings are usually available. Bring a friend, bring a plant for the raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)

### JANUARY 9

#### BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING

We are a neighborhood group who love everything about gardening and getting together. Come and play in the dirt!

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Bonita Valley Public Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA

More Information: Club President, Lynne Batchelor, 858-451-6764

#### SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

This is the San Diego Epiphyllum Society's general meeting.

When: 7:30 pm

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)

#### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The program for this month's PLGC meeting will cover integrated pest management and natural enemies, and is presented by a UCCE San Diego County Program representative and UC Master Gardeners. Guests are welcome!

When: 10:45 a.m.

Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

#### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN: BYE BYE GRASS! PART I

Join Nan Sterman, gardening expert and host of the PBS show, *A Growing Passion*, to learn how to exterminate your lawn for good! Nan will discuss extermination options, including the pros and cons of chemical and non-chemical methods and ways to physically remove grass. Part II of Bye Bye Grass! will be presented Saturday, January 12. Part I only is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members; Parts I & II is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

When: 6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

### JANUARY 12

#### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING

The monthly San Diego Bromeliad Society Meeting and Lecture is free to all who wish to attend.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)

#### SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING

Admission is free and all persons with an interest in Cacti and/or Succulents are invited!

When: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdscs.com](http://www.sdscs.com)

#### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN: BEYOND XERISCAPE: GARDENING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Gardening the xeriscape way provides conservation opportunities that go beyond just conserving water. Garden Horticulture Manager, Don Schultz, will show you how to fine-tune your approach to this water-wise gardening method. There is a \$10 fee for members, and a \$15 fee for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

Continued

When: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

#### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN: BYE BYE GRASS! PART II

Join Nan Sterman, gardening expert and author of *California Gardener's Guide, Volume 2*, as she discusses how to evaluate your irrigation system, decide on the kinds of spaces you need in your garden, prepare the soil for a new garden and offer creative ideas for beautiful, low water plantings. Part II only is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members; Parts I & II is \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

When: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

#### JANUARY 13

##### SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB

The San Diego Bonsai Club has two monthly offerings: a 9:00 a.m. classes for beginner and novice members, and a 10:30 a.m. meeting and program.

When: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

#### JANUARY 14

##### SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Horticultural Society presents author, speaker and TV personality Nan Sterman, who will lead attendees to England's Chelsea Flower Show to discuss "Lessons from Chelsea: International Ideas for Sustainable Gardens." SDHS meetings are free and everyone is welcome. Come mingle; we're a diverse and neighborly group!

When: 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Where: Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds,

260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, CA

More Information: [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

#### JANUARY 15

##### CALIFORNIA COASTAL ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

Join the California Coastal Rose Society at 6:15 p.m. to hear special topics at our pre-meeting, Rose-a-holics. The 7:00 p.m., general meeting includes a special guest speaker, raffle prizes, refreshments and of course roses!

When: 6:15 p.m. Rose-a-holics, 7:00 p.m. general meeting

Where: Heritage Hall at Magee Park, 2650 Garfield Street, Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [www.californiacoastalrose.com](http://www.californiacoastalrose.com)

##### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEETING

Come join the California Native Plant Society San Diego Chapter at 7 p.m. for a half an hour of discussion and camaraderie, then stay for the 7:30 general meeting. The meeting is free and open to the public.

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: <http://cnpsdd.org>

#### JANUARY 17

##### BERNARDO GARDENERS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Landscape Designer Christiana Holmquist will delight with a program on redesign of home landscape. She will give special attention to the needs of smaller properties and condo gardens.

When: 1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where: Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive in Rancho Bernardo, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.bernardogardeners.org](http://www.bernardogardeners.org)

##### SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Fern Society meeting is an opportunity for people to study ferns together, and encourage the joy and use of ferns in gardens, patios and homes. Guests are welcome.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdfjern.com](http://www.sdfjern.com)

#### JANUARY 19

##### MIRA COSTA AND CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUBS:

##### DESIGNING WITH SUCCEULENTS

*Designing With Succulents* author Debra Lee Baldwin joins the club for a lecture and book signing.

When: 12:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.

Where: Horticulture Building 7000, MiraCosta College, 1 Barnard Drive, Oceanside, CA

More Information: [carlsbadgardenclub@hotmail.com](mailto:carlsbadgardenclub@hotmail.com), 760-494-7774

##### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN:

##### TREES IN THE WATER CONSERVING LANDSCAPE

Join local Certified Arborist, Leah Rotke, for a crash course on trees. Leah will guide you through the important basics: tree selection, planting do's and don'ts, watering new trees, maintaining established trees and tree species best adapted to our climate. Class includes a tour. There is a \$10 fee for members, and a \$15 fee for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

When: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

#### JANUARY 22

##### SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING

This is the San Diego Dahlia Society's monthly meeting.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: Society President, David J. Tooley, 858-672-2593

#### JANUARY 23

##### IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL MEETING

Come learn about Japanese flower arrangement, as demonstrated by Sogetsu School And Workshop.

When: 10 a.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: Keiko Schneider, 858-759-2640

##### MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Learn more about bee decline and what gardeners can do about it, courtesy of Diana Busch's program, "Bees and Beyond." Meetings are free to members. While guests are welcome, there is an admission fee of \$10 for non-members.

When: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)

#### JANUARY 24

##### CROWN GARDEN CLUB OF CORONADO MEETING

This is the Crown Garden Club of Coronado's monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Winn Room, Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado, CA

More Information: Club President, Jeanne Bowers, 619-435-5474

##### SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS MEETING

This is the California Rare Fruit Growers San Diego Chapter monthly meeting. 2008 is the Year of the Avocado; January's meeting features a Scion Exchange.

When: 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

#### JANUARY 26

##### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN:

##### DESIGNING LANDSCAPES WITH NATIVE PLANTS

Discover the variety of California native plants with Yvette Andersen of California's Own Native Landscape Design. Learn the proper care and placement of drought-tolerant natives, and get ideas for designing your own home garden. Register early, this class fills fast! There is a \$10 fee for members, and a \$15 fee for non-members. Pre-registration is required.

When: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: [www.thegarden.org](http://www.thegarden.org), 619-660-0614, x10

#### JANUARY 28

##### BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

This is the Bridge and Bay Garden Club's monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Where: Winn Room, Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado, CA

More Information: Club President, Claudette Harshberger, 619-435-6042

##### SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Rose Society's monthly meeting is free, and visitors are always welcome.

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)

#### JANUARY 29

##### FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Programs, speakers, workshops, study groups and tours cover a variety of garden-related topics, and give members the opportunity to expand their knowledge and interests.

When: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: Fallbrook Community Center: 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook, CA 92028

More Information: [www.geocities.com/fallbrookgardenclub](http://www.geocities.com/fallbrookgardenclub)

## February Events

#### FEBRUARY 1

##### VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Vista Garden Club Monthly Meeting begins with lunch at noon; program begins about 1:15 p.m. This month's program will feature Cecil Hanna and his Master Garden associates discussing Clivia. Visitors are welcome.

*Continued*



When: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: Gloria McClellan Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrace Dr. Vista, CA. 92084

More Information: [www.vistagardenclub.org](http://www.vistagardenclub.org)

#### CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB MEETING

The Carlsbad Garden Club will feature Sergio Regalado of Plantplay Nursery, who will discuss new plant introductions and proven winners. Unusual plants will be available for sale. This meeting is free.

When: 1 p.m.

Where: Heritage Hall, Magee Park, 2650 Garfield St., Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [carlsbadgardenclub@hotmail.com](mailto:carlsbadgardenclub@hotmail.com), 760-494-7774

#### FEBRUARY 2

##### SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY SHOW \*\*TWO-DAY EVENT\*\*

The San Diego Camellia Society presents their annual two-day show at Balboa Park. Stop by and learn about this wonderful winter plant!

When: February 2, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.; February 3, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: Club President, E.C. Snooks, 858-454-6659

#### SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY MEETING

This is the Southwest Hemerocallis Society monthly meeting.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA

More Information: Club President, Betsy Hamblin, 858-483-5584

#### FEBRUARY 3

##### HON NON BO MEETING

This is a Hon Non Bo Association bi-monthly event.

When: 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: Club President, Brenda Storey, (858) 689-0957

#### FEBRUARY 4

##### SAN DIEGO MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING

Join the San Diego Mycological Society as they bring in mushrooms to identify, host guest lecturers and share mushroom recipes and delicacies.

When: 6:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdmco.org](http://www.sdmco.org)

#### PALOMAR DISTRICT OF THE CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC. MEETING

Come share both old and new designs from the 2007 Revised CGCI Handbook for Flower Shows in this Floral Forum. Open to anyone interested in floral design. There is an \$8 fee.

When: 12:30 p.m.

Where: Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [www.geocities.com/pgardenclub](http://www.geocities.com/pgardenclub)

#### FEBRUARY 5

##### SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego County Orchid Society is holding two meetings: one a general meeting, one a novice class for those interested in learning more about orchids. Everyone is welcome!

When: Novice Class at 6:30 p.m., General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 104 (Novice Class), Room 101 (General Meeting), Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdorchids.com](http://www.sdorchids.com)

#### FEBRUARY 6

##### PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING

The Palomar Orchid Society monthly meeting hosts a class for beginners, starting at 6:45 p.m., and a main meeting, which begins at 7:30 (the meeting is free and open to everyone). There will be refreshments, raffles and giveaways.

When: 6:45 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Where: Carlsbad Women's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [www.fascinationfororchids.com/sd.html](http://www.fascinationfororchids.com/sd.html)

#### SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING

The San Diego Herb Club meeting is free and open to visitors. The club meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m., with a raffle, refreshments and program to follow.

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [president@sandiegoherbclub.com](mailto:president@sandiegoherbclub.com)

#### FEBRUARY 9

##### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING

The monthly San Diego Bromeliad Society Meeting and Lecture is free to all who wish to attend.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)

#### SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING

Admission is free and all persons with an interest in Cacti and/or Succulents are invited!

When: 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdscs.com](http://www.sdscs.com)

#### FEBRUARY 10

##### SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB MEETING

The San Diego Bonsai Club has two monthly offerings: a 9:00 a.m. classes for beginner and novice members, and a 10:30 a.m. meeting and program.

When: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com](http://www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com)

#### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY MEETING

Admission is free to this monthly meeting, and guests are welcome. There will be a raffle and surprise table, as well as a program and question and answer period.

When: 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: War Memorial Building, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.socalplumeriasociety.com](http://www.socalplumeriasociety.com)

#### FEBRUARY 11

##### SD HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Horticultural Society presents author and photographer Karen Bussolini, who will share insights from the book *Elegant Silvers: Striking Plants for Every Garden*, which she co-authored with Jo Ann Gardner. The meeting is free and everyone is welcome. Come and mingle; we're a diverse and neighborly group!

When: 6 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds, 260 Jimmy Durante Blvd., Del Mar, CA

More Information: [www.sdhortsoc.org](http://www.sdhortsoc.org)

#### FEBRUARY 12

##### AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY, A.D. ROBINSON BRANCH MEETING

This is the branch's monthly meeting. Please contact the branch for more details.

When: 10:30 a.m.

Where: Homes of Members

More Information: Branch President, Doris Smith, 619-222-1294

#### DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING

DVGC club meetings involve the discussion of club business, horticultural tips and sharing and critiquing different types of floral designs. In this month's program, Teruko Hanson will discuss Ikebana floral design. Visitors are welcome.

When: 12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Where: St. Stephen's Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Rd., Valley Center, CA

More Information: [www.dosvallesgardenclub.org](http://www.dosvallesgardenclub.org)

#### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Geranium Society Meeting features guest speakers, plant raffles and refreshments; plant cuttings are usually available. Bring a friend, bring a plant for the raffle and enjoy!

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdgeranium.org](http://www.sdgeranium.org)

#### FEBRUARY 13

##### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Speaker Carvill Veech will give a demonstration of her floral displays in a dynamic and entertaining style. Public welcome!

When: 10:45 a.m.

Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.plgc.org](http://www.plgc.org)

#### BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING

We are a neighborly group who love everything about gardening and getting together. Come and play in the dirt!

When: 9:30 a.m.

Where: Bonita Valley Public Library, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita, CA

More Information: Club President, Lynne Batchelor, 858-451-6764

#### SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING

This is the San Diego Epiphyllum Society's general meeting.

When: 7:30 pm

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)

#### FEBRUARY 17

##### MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY FAIR

Join the Mycological Society as they present their annual Mycological Society Fair. Contact the club for more details.

When: 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdmco.org](http://www.sdmco.org)

## FEBRUARY 19

### CALIFORNIA COASTAL ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

Join the California Coastal Rose Society at 6:15 p.m. to hear special topics at their pre-meeting. Rose-a-holics: The 7:00 p.m. general meeting includes a special guest speaker, raffle prizes, refreshments and, of course, roses!

When: 6:15 p.m. Rose-a-holics, 7:00 p.m. general meeting

Where: Heritage Hall at Magee Park, 2650 Garfield Street, Carlsbad, CA

More Information: [www.californiacoastalrose.com](http://www.californiacoastalrose.com)

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY MEETING

Come join the California Native Plant Society San Diego Chapter at 7 p.m. for a half an hour of discussion and camaraderie, then stay for the 7:30 general meeting. The meeting is free and open to the public.

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: <http://cnpsd.org>

## FEBRUARY 21

### SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Fern Society meeting is an opportunity for people to study ferns together, and encourage the joy and use of ferns in gardens, patios and homes. Guests are welcome.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdferrn.com](http://www.sdferrn.com)

## FEBRUARY 25

### BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB

This is the Bridge and Bay Garden Club's monthly meeting.

When: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Where: Winn Room, Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado, CA

More Information: Club President, Claudette Harshberger, 619-435-6042

### SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING

The San Diego Rose Society's monthly meeting is free, and visitors are always welcome.

When: 7:00 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)

## FEBRUARY 26

### FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Programs, speakers, workshops, study groups and tours cover a variety of garden-related topics and give members the opportunity to expand their knowledge and interests.

When: 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Where: Fallbrook Community Center: 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook, CA 92028

More Information: [www.geocities.com/fallbrookgardenclub](http://www.geocities.com/fallbrookgardenclub)

### SAN DIEGO DAHLIA SOCIETY MEETING

This is the San Diego Dahlia Society's monthly meeting.

When: 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: Society President, David J. Tooley, 858-672-2593

## FEBRUARY 27

### IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL MEETING

Experience Japanese flower arrangement, as demonstrated by Ichijo School.

When: 10 a.m.

Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: Keiko Schneider, 858-759-2640

### MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING

Mission Hills Garden Club presents an evening devoted to learning more about the creation and maintenance of San Diego's Gardens and Parks with Mike Rasmussen, Director of the City's nursery. Meeting will be followed with a tour of the city nursery on Saturday.

When: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Where: Mission Hills United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.missionhillsgardenclub.org](http://www.missionhillsgardenclub.org)

## FEBRUARY 28

### SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS MEETING

This is the California Rare Fruit Growers San Diego Chapter monthly meeting. 2008 is the Year of the Avocado. February's meeting focuses on propagation methods.

When: 7 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.crfgsandiego.org](http://www.crfgsandiego.org)

## ONGOING GARDENING CLASSES

### WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, PT. LOMA GARDENING CLASS

Learn a variety of gardening tricks every Saturday morning by attending a free class at Walter Andersen Nursery's Pt. Loma Nursery. January's courses are: Bare Root trees and shrubs (Jan. 5), Camellia & Azalea care (Jan. 12), Rose Pruning & Planting (Jan. 19) and Spring Bulbs (Jan. 26). February's courses are: Preparing Garden Soils (Feb. 2), Spring Color (Feb. 9), Cymbidium Orchids (Feb. 16) and Citrus & Avocado (Feb. 23).

When: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Pt. Loma, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)

### WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, POWAY GARDENING CLASS

Come join others at Walter Andersen's Poway store for a free, weekly seasonal garden lecture. A complete listing of January and February courses will be available online by January 1, 2008.

When: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Walter Andersen's Poway, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway, CA

More Information: [www.walterandersen.com](http://www.walterandersen.com)

## ONGOING WALKS, TOURS & GARDEN EVENTS

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS TOUR

Come and meet up at the Visitor's Center for a 2-weekly tour of the Quail Botanical Gardens. No reservations required. Free with admission.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., every Saturday

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA

More Information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS: CHILDREN'S EVENTS

The Quail Botanical Garden offers a number of events specially designed to entertain and educate children and their caregivers. Please contact Quail Botanical Gardens for a complete listing of their scheduled events.

When: Ongoing—contact for program-specific times.

Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA

More Information: [www.qbgardens.org](http://www.qbgardens.org)

### WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN TOUR

Enjoy a docent-led tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.

When: Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.

Where: Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon, CA

More Information: <http://thegarden.org>

### CNPS NATIVE PLANT WALK

Join landscape architect and member of the CNPS San Diego Chapter Kay Stewart for a two-hour, easy walk into Tecolote Canyon and back. Along the way you'll study and learn about the plants. This guided walk is free.

When: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., first Sunday of the month

Where: Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road, San Diego, CA

More Information: <http://cnpsd.org>

### BUENA CREEK GARDENS FREE GARDEN TOUR

Join Steve Brigham for this free, monthly garden tour.

When: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., second Saturday of each month

Where: Buena Creek Gardens, 418 Buena Creek Rd. San Marcos, CA

More Information: [www.buena creekgardens.com](http://www.buena creekgardens.com)

### SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN

Come visit the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum's exquisite Asian garden.

When: 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; 12 p.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday

Where: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Garden, 404 3rd Ave., San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.scdhm.org/garden](http://www.scdhm.org/garden)

## CONTACT US!

Do you have an event, class or meeting that you'd like to let *California Garden* readers know about? If so, please email [calendar@sdjfloral.org](mailto:calendar@sdjfloral.org) with your group's name, the meeting date and time, meeting place, any applicable fees, event program and contact information. Space is limited, so please get in touch today to ensure inclusion! The deadline for the upcoming Mar/Apr 2008 issue is January 10, 2008; the deadline for the May/Jun 2008 issue is March 10, 2008.

## Balboa Park Events

### SAN DIEGO ZOO

Visit the world famous San Diego Zoo for Plant Days and Orchid Odyssey.

When: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., third Friday of each month

Where: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.sandiegozoo.com](http://www.sandiegozoo.com)

### SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN

Enhance your well-being with a visit to this Japanese-style garden. There is a \$3 fee for adults, \$2.50 fee for Seniors (55+) and \$2 for children and military with I.D.; free for children under six.

When: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday

Where: San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.niwa.org](http://www.niwa.org)

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# SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907

1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684

619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park

*Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California*

## GENERAL MEETINGS 2008

February 19

April 15

June 17

October 21

Casa del Prado, Room 101  
Balboa Park, San Diego

## OFFICERS

**President**

Kay Harry

**First Vice President**

Lucy Warren

**Second Vice President**

Lynne Batchelor

**Treasurer**

John Sandy

**Recording Secretary**

Leticia Chavarria

**Corresponding Secretary**

Kathy Taylor DeMurrillo

**Parliamentarian**

**Historians**

Thea Gums

Anna Noah

**DIRECTORS**

**Term 2005-2008**

Barbara Forrest

Suzanne Michel

Cheryl Gaidmore

**Term 2007-2009**

Michelle Kownacki

Sandra Graff

Linda Lindgren

Connie Brown

Joanne Dossett

Connie Whitney

Amy R. Wood

**Arrangers Guild Chair**

Suzanne Michel

## AFFILIATES:

**CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.**  
Exec. Director: Maureen Austin 619-445-8352  
P. O. Box 532  
Alpine, CA 91903-0532

**CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO**  
Pres: Tenaya Becker 760-295-8447  
Box 9424, San Diego, CA 92169-0424

**FRIENDS OF THE HORTENSE  
MILLER GARDEN**  
Information: 949-499-5518  
P. O. Box 742, Laguna Beach, CA 92652-0742  
Email: marshab@gte.net

**JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN  
BALBOA PARK**  
Contact: Luanne Lao 619-232-2721  
2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101-4792

**PALOMAR DISTRICT  
CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.**  
Dir: George Speer 760-749-9608  
30861 Saddleback Rd.  
Valley Center, CA 92082-3848

**QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS  
FOUNDATION, INC**  
Exec. Dir: Julian Duval 760-436-3036  
P. O. Box 230005, Encinitas, CA 92023-0005

**SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN  
FOUNDATION**  
Pres: Victor Tongco 619-234-8901  
2125 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101-4792

**SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM AND GARDEN**  
Exec. Dir: Alexander Chuang 619-338-9888  
404 Third Ave., San Diego, CA 92101-6803

**SAN DIEGO ZOO**  
Horticulture Dept. 619-231-1515 Ext. 4298  
P. O. Box 120551, San Diego, CA 92112-0551

**SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL**  
Chair: Nancy Abernethy 760-742-1842  
P. O. Box 876, Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876  
1st Wed - 10:30 am  
Sep., Nov., Jan., Mar., May, North County Fair,  
Escondido, Community Room

**TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY**  
Contact: Takashi Ijichi 619-255-2501  
1455 49th St., San Diego, CA 92102-2625  
1st Sun - 9:00-11:00 a.m., Casa del Prado  
Feb., Mar., Apr., Sep., Oct., Nov.

**WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN**  
Librarian: Joan Endres 619-660-0614  
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. W  
El Cajon, CA 92019-4317

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:  
CLASSIC GARDENS**  
P. O. Box 2711 858-459-0316  
La Jolla, CA 92038-2711

**MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.**  
3089C Clairemont Drive #296 619-296-9687  
San Diego, CA 92117-6802  
**SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE  
JR. FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW**  
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.  
Del Mar, CA 92014-2216  
Email: flowershow@sdfair.com

**SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER  
AUTHORITY**  
Vickie V. Driver 858-522-6760  
4677 Overland Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92123-1233  
Email: vdriver@sdcwa.org

**THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB**  
Pres.: Judy Dunning/Cindi Lohry 619-579-0222  
200 Highline Trail, El Cajon, CA 92021-4082

**JIM STELLUTI  
CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST**  
1928 Madison Ave. 619-298-7641  
San Diego, CA 92116-2722

**GARDEN CLUBS:  
ALPINE GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Carlette Anderson 619-445-5716  
2451 Night Star Ct., Alpine, CA 91901-1449  
1st Fri - 10:00 am, Homes of Members

**BERNARDO GARDENERS**  
Pres: Adele Kelly 858-673-8728  
PO Box 27179, San Diego, CA 92198-1179  
3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Rancho Bernardo Library

**BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Lynne Batchelor 858-451-6764  
16048 Caminito Aire Puro  
San Diego, CA 92128-3557  
2nd Wed - 9:30 a.m., Bonita Public Library

**BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Pat Cooley 437-8227  
950 Olive Ave., Coronado, CA 92118-2710  
4th Mon - 9:30 a.m., Winn Room,  
Coronado Public Library

**CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Anne Smith 760-931-9863  
3358 Don Diablo Dr., Carlsbad, CA 92010-3914

**CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Betsy Cory 619-656-8669  
P.O. Box 57, Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016  
3rd Thu - 11:45 a.m., Norman Park Senior Center

**CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION**  
Pres: Nancy Griffith 619-435-8079  
P.O. Box 180188, Coronado, CA 92118-0188

**CROWN GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Jeanne Bowers  
P.O. Box 180476, Coronado, CA 92178-0476  
4th Thu - 9:30 a.m., Coronado Library

**DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB**  
Pres: Evelyn Kent 760-749-5078  
13224 Blueberry Hill La.  
Valley Center, CA 92082-0123  
2nd Tue - 12:30 p.m., Valley Center Com. Hall



### FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Judy Farnan 760-451-0792  
P. O. Box 1702, Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702  
3rd Wed - 7:00 p.m., FPUD Bldg. on Mission Rd.  
Last Thu - 9:30 a.m., Fallbrook Presbyterian  
Church on Stage Coach

### FLURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB

Chair: Mrs. Louisa Pillsbury 858-551-4556  
16049 Vista de Golf  
San Diego, CA 92091-4340  
2nd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Joan Blankenship 858-488-5618  
5171 Crystal Dr. La Jolla, CA 92037-7951  
3rd Tue - 1:30 p.m., L.J. Lutheran Church

### LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

Pres: Vernon Bluhm 760-745-1219  
710 W. 13th Ave. G118  
Escondido, CA 92025  
Email: [vbluhm@cox.net](mailto:vbluhm@cox.net)  
4th Mon. 2:00 p.m. Rancho Bernardo Library,  
2nd floor

### LAS JARDINERAS

Pres: Julie Warren 619-298-7043  
3919 Portola Place  
San Diego, CA 92103-2705  
3rd Mon - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### MIRACOSTA HORT. CLUB OF OCEANSIDE

Co-Presidents: Felicia Moscinski 760-726-4047  
809 Olive Ave., #40, Vista, CA 92083-3373  
Don Nelson 760-630-3580  
952 Park Hill Drive  
Escondido, CA 92025-4853  
Email: [donnelson12sbcglobel.net](mailto:donnelson12sbcglobel.net)  
3rd Sat - 12:45 p.m., MiraCosta Community  
College, Student Center Bldg. (upstairs)  
Meetings Sep through Jun ONLY

### MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Meredith French 619-260-1588  
San Diego, CA 92103-5502  
4th Wed - 6:30 p.m., Mission Hills United Church  
of Christ at 4070 Jackdaw St.

### POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Nancy Hurlbert 619-223-3315  
P.O. Box 8382, San Diego, CA 92166-0382  
Co Pres. Margaret Cook 619-223-0253  
3930 Del Mar St. San Diego, CA 92107-3735  
2nd Wed - 10:00 a.m., Portuguese Hall  
2818 Avenida de Portugal

### POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

Co. Presidents  
Rosemary Anderson 858-672-0459  
14908 Satanas St. San Diego, CA 92129-1529  
Lucille Rosicky 858-672-6225  
14809 Priscilla St. San Diego, CA 92129-1524  
2nd Wed - 9:00 a.m., Lake Poway Pavilion

### RAMONA GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Marci Shirley 760-789-8880  
P.O. Box 1412, Ramona, CA 92065  
2nd Wed - 12:00 noon Ramona Women's Club

### RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Carol Wells 619-749-8325  
1818 Sonetts Dr., El Cajon, CA 92019  
3rd Tuesday each month at 9:30 a.m.

### RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Hal Sexton 858-756-1554  
P. O. Box 483  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-0483

### SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Marj Myers 619-448-3613  
9241 Galston Dr., Santee, CA 92071-1510  
4th Tue - 9:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Pres: Susi Torre-Bueno 760-295-7089  
P. O. Box 231869, Encinitas, CA 92023-1869  
2nd Mon - 6:30 pm, except June  
Surfside Race Place  
Del Mar Fairgrounds, Jimmy Durante Blvd.

### SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Gori Thirloway 858-3284  
1105 Santa Madera Ct.  
Solana Beach, CA 92078-1620  
4th Wed - 9:30 a.m., Quail Bot. Gardens

### VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA

Pres: Ann Craig 858-454-4117  
1802 Amalfi St., La Jolla, CA 92037-3803  
4th Thu., 10:00 a.m.,  
Torrey Pines Christian Church

### VISTA GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Barbara Weiler 760-630-0383  
2920 Harris Dr., Vista, CA 92084-1418  
1st Fri - 12:00 noon, Vista Senior Center

### IKEBANA SCHOOLS:

#### ICHIYO SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

Pres: Haruko Crawford 619-660-2046  
10411 San Carlos Dr.  
Spring Valley, CA 91978-1034

#### IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119

Pres: Janet Judge 858-759-2477  
P.O. Box 2248  
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-2248  
4th Wed - 10:00 a.m., Casa del Prado

#### IKENODO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO

Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler 858-278-5689  
2822 Walker Dr., San Diego, CA 92123-3056

#### OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA

**LA JOLLA CHAPTER**  
P. O. Box 500765 858-672-7850  
San Diego, CA 92150-0765  
2nd Tues - 10:00 a.m., La Jolla Library

#### OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA

**SAN DIEGO CHAPTER**  
Pres: Akiko Bourland 858-273-5899  
2936 Havasupai Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92117-1641

#### SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO BRANCH

Director: Hiroko Szechinski 858-571-6137  
10830 Montego Dr., San Diego, CA 92124-1421

#### SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA

Master Instructor: Sumiko Lahey 619-429-6198  
2829 Flax Dr., San Diego, CA 92154-2160

### PLANT SOCIETIES:

#### AFRICAN VIOLET

#### CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY

Pres: Patty Regan 760-295-0484  
2000 S. Melrose Dr. #119, Vista, CA 92081  
4th Mon - 10:30 a.m. - Vista Library,  
700 Eucalyptus Ave.

### BEGONIA

#### ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH

**AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**  
Pres: Doris Smith 619-222-1294  
4505 Long Branch Ave.  
San Diego, CA 92107-2333  
2nd Tue - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

#### MABEL CORWIN BRANCH

**AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**  
Pres: Dean Turney 760-942-1919  
467 Fulvia, Encinitas, CA 92024-2146  
2nd Sun - 1:30 p.m., except May & Aug.  
Quail Gardens

#### MARGARET LEE BRANCH

**AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY**  
Pres: Michael Ludwig 619-262-7535  
6040 Upland St., San Diego CA 92114-1933  
Last Sat - 10:30 a.m., Homes of Members

### BONSAI

#### HON NON BO ASSOCIATION

Pres: Brenda Storey 858-689-0957  
9976 Dauntless St., San Diego, CA 92126-5514  
1st Sun. every other month (begin Feb.)  
10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado

#### SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.

Information: 619-699-8776  
P. O. Box 40037, San Diego CA 92164-0037  
2nd Sun. - 10:30 a.m., Casa del Prado, Rm. 101  
Beginning & intermediate classes at 9:00 am  
before meeting July/August 2007 137

### BROMELIAD

#### BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK

Pres: Joann Dossett 619-469-3539  
2871 Brant St., San Diego, CA 92103-6119  
2nd Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

#### SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY

Pres: Robert Vitacco 619-469-3539  
(weekends only)  
[www.bsi.org/webpages/san\\_diego.html](http://www.bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html)  
P. O. Box 83996, San Diego, CA 92138-3966  
2nd Sat., 10:00 a.m., Room 104,  
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park

### CACTUS & SUCCULENT

#### PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY

P. O. Box 840, Escondido, CA 92033  
4th Sat - 12:15 p.m., Joslyn Sr. Ctr., Escondido  
**SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND  
SUCCULENT SOCIETY**  
Pres: Mark Fryer 619-795-1020  
P. O. Box 33181, San Diego, CA 92163-3181  
2nd Sat - 1:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

### CAMELLIA

#### SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY

Pres: E. C. (Gene) Snooks 858-454-6659  
6114 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla, CA 92037-6702  
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado  
Meetings Nov. through Apr. ONLY

### DAHLIA

#### SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY

Pres: David J. Tooley 858-672-2593  
11375 Nawa Way, San Diego, CA 92129-1116  
Email: [djsj21643@aol.com](mailto:djsj21643@aol.com)  
4th Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

## DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS)

### SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY

Contact: Betsy Hamblin 858-483-5584  
851 Opal St., San Diego, CA 92109-1780  
1st Sat. - 10:00 a.m., Sep. through May  
Quail Gardens

## EPIPHYLLUM

### SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY

Pres: Mildred V. Mikas 858-485-5414  
P. O. Box 126127, San Diego, CA 92112-6127  
Website: [www.epiphyllum.com](http://www.epiphyllum.com)  
2nd Wed. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

## FERN

### SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY

Pres: Sherry Worthen 858-278-2017  
3141 Cabrillo Mesa Dr.  
San Diego, CA 92123-2945  
3rd Thu. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

## FRUIT

### CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS

Chair: David Silverstein  
4722 Coronado Ave., San Diego, CA 92107-3543  
4th Thu. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado  
Nov. & Dec. ONLY, 3rd Thu.

## GERANIUM

### SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY

Pres: Jim Budlove 619-287-6299  
6404 Zena Dr., San Diego, CA 92115-7026  
2nd Thu. - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

## HERB

### THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB

Copresidents: Judy Dunning and Cindi Lohry  
619-579-0222  
Meetings on the 1st Wed. of every month at  
7:00 p.m., Balboa Park  
Casa del Prado, Room 101

## IRIS

### SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY

Pres: Leon Vogel 951-677-5587  
26440 St. Ives Ct., Murrieta, CA 92563-6087  
2nd Sun. - 1:00 p.m.  
Call for newsletter and location

### SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY

Pres: Eileen Fiumara 818-986-4188  
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.  
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119  
1st Thu. - 7:30 p.m. -  
Canoga Park Women's Club  
7401 Jordan, Canoga Park

## NATIVE PLANTS

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY

**SAN DIEGO CHAPTER**  
Carolyn Martus 760-434-5033  
P. O. Box 121390 [www.cnpsd.org](http://www.cnpsd.org)  
San Diego, CA 92112-1390  
3rd Tue - 7:00 p.m., Casa del Prado

### LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB

Pres: Yolanda Fleet 760-745-1219  
3045 Felicita Rd., Escondido, CA 92029-6725  
4th Mon. - 2:00 p.m. - Rancho Bernardo  
Library, 2nd floor

## ORCHID

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY

A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.  
Pres: Loren Ellsworth 858-748-8355  
14730 Dash Way, Poway, CA 92064-2914  
3rd Wed. - 7:00 p.m., Carlsbad Women's Club

### SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

Pres: Genie Hammond 619-426-6831  
P. O. Box 161020, San Diego, CA 92176-1020  
1st Tue. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado

## ORGANIC

### BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB

Pres: Ron Nordfelt 619-475-8086  
935 Rawhide Ct., Bonita, CA 91902-2422

4th Tue. - 7:00 p.m., Bonita Valley Baptist  
Church at 4701 Sweetwater Rd. Meeting in  
back. EXCEPT Aug. & Dec.

## PLUMERIA

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY

Pres: Joy Herzog 619-443-4795  
P. O. Box 20553, El Cajon, CA 92021-0940  
4th Sun. - 1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.,  
Feb. through Oct., Casa del Prado, Room 102  
Email: [c.herzog@att.net](mailto:c.herzog@att.net)

## ROSE

### EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY

Pres: Karen Mannino 619-401-9625  
11977 Paseo Fuerte, El Cajon, CA 92020-8366  
Website: [www.eastcountyrosesociety.com](http://www.eastcountyrosesociety.com)  
1st Sun - 2:00 p.m., except July & Aug.  
Gardens of Members

### SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY

Pres: Ruth Tiffany 619-462-5753  
6705 Maury Dr., San Diego, CA 92119-2020  
Website: [www.sdrosesociety.org](http://www.sdrosesociety.org)  
3rd Mon. - 7:30 p.m., Casa del Prado  
EXCEPT Jan. & Feb. - 4th Mon.  
No meetings July & Aug.

## TREES

### PEOPLE FOR TREES

Contact: Pat Stevenson 619-222-TREE  
P. O. Box 120505 FAX 619-223-TREE  
San Diego, CA 92112-0505  
Email: [adoglover1@juno.com](mailto:adoglover1@juno.com)  
4th Tue. - 6:30 p.m., 743 Imperial Ave.

## WATER GARDEN

### SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY

Pres: Ed Simpson 760-436-3704  
1302 Avocado Rd., Oceanside, CA 92054-5702  
3rd Sun - Apr. through Oct.  
Website: [groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarten](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sdwatergarten)  
Email: [dc@pondplants.com](mailto:dc@pondplants.com)  
Call for meeting information.

Send changes to Affiliates Editor, California Garden, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Call 619-232-5762

Email: [membership@sdfloor.org](mailto:membership@sdfloor.org) Deadline for March/April issue: January 10, 2008

Each affiliate group is entitled to a business-card-sized ad at half price. We can accept your designed ad (tiff, jpeg or pdf files preferred).

## Balboa Park Events continued

### BALBOA PARK OFFSHOOT TOURS

Learn about Balboa Park's plants as volunteer horticulturists lead visitors on free, one-hour themed walks. (Inclement weather and low-turnout cancels the tour.)

When: 10 a.m., every Saturday starting January 12

Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org)

### BALBOA PARK INTERPRETIVE WALKS

Join volunteer-guides on this free, history-oriented walk through Balboa Park.

When: 1 p.m., every Tuesday

Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA

More Information: [www.balboapark.org](http://www.balboapark.org)

### SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM CANYONEER WALKS

Join trained volunteer guides on a local canyon walks. There is a \$2 fee.

When: Times vary; check website for specific event details

Where: Locations vary; check website for specific event details

More Information: [www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers](http://www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers)

## Farmer's Market IN SEASON

Not sure what to expect at a winter farmer's market? Here are just some of the items that you may find being sold from the stalls in January and February. (For more information about San Diego County Certified Farmer's Markets—and to find out the date and location of the market nearest you—please visit [www.sdfarmbureau.org](http://www.sdfarmbureau.org).)

**JANUARY:** Avocados, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, cherimoyas, guavas, kumquats, lemons, lettuce, macadamia nuts, strawberries, rhubarb, snow peas, sugar snaps, tangerines, various cut flowers and potted plants.

**FEBRUARY:** Artichokes, asparagus, avocados, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cherimoyas, celery, guavas, kumquats, lemons, Navel oranges, peas, rhubarb, strawberries, tangelos, tangerines, various cut flowers and potted plants.

## SOLDIER BOYS APPRECIATE FLOWERS

CALIFORNIA GARDEN  
MARCH AND APRIL 1918

*The military have been part of the fabric of San Diego since its inception. Early Floral members recognized that soldiers who have taken on the responsibility of defending their country are also in need of beauty and in World War I made many floral arrangements for the wounded soldiers at Camp Kearny. We continue that recognition with the donation of arrangements of the floral materials remaining after our January 13, 2008 Battle of the Bloom to wounded soldiers in the Naval Hospital.*

Camp Kearny, April 4, 1918,  
Mr. Stephen A. Connell, Pres. S. D. F. A.,  
San Diego, Calif.

My Dear Mr. Connell:

It was a happy day for the men in the base hospital at Camp Kearny when I met you some months ago and procured the enlistment of the San Diego Floral Association in the service of the United States at the Base Hospital at Camp Kearny. I knew how much the sick boys loved flowers and realized it more than ever when I saw the effectiveness of some bits of shrubbery and wild berries in the wards, which the nurses had gathered from the nearby canyons.

I bought flowers as often as I could and got some thru friends, but was unable to supply the demand of ten wards, so I take this opportunity of thanking the San Diego Floral Association for the large part it has taken in the solution of the flower problem with the result that each ward is a regular flower garden. Thru you I want to thank the good women of San Diego, and nearby towns, for their faithfulness in supplying us with flowers, jellies, etc., during the winter. I want to make special mention of Mrs. Greer and Mrs. Williams who have been at their post every Wednesday to receive the flowers and get them ready for distribution.

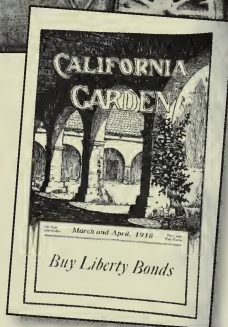
Now, in order that the donors may know how much their work is appreciated the following expressions from the boys, (or which I have hundreds) will tell.

Words cannot express my appreciation of such kindness.  
*Corp. E. R. Sidds*

I am sure your kindness shall never be forgotten, for flowers certainly cheer one while upon the sick bed.  
*P. H. Wahlberg*



*Chaplain Horene starting with load of flowers for Base Hospital, Camp Kearny.*



You will never know with what fondness we look back to the wonderful blossoms that you have donated to the cause. *R.T. Quick.*

The flowers brought to us by our dear Chaplain are certainly appreciated by all. The gift of giving to one who is sick is a helpful healer. *E. A. Peres.*

The flowers you sent us brings sunshine in our ward, even though it is cloudy outside. We wish to express our most hearty thanks for your kindness. *Walter A. Scott*

Thanks and appreciation for the flowers you send us.  
*Frank Felize.*

Thru the untiring efforts and energy of our beloved Chaplain our every little want and need is being supplied and your beautiful flowers brought us much joy and happiness. We thank you. *W. E. Fowler*

Those flowers were inspiring to us soldier boys.  
*Corp. M. S. Cornell.*

In a Medical report from France I found this statement. "Neither medical attendance nor food, can do more for the soldier suffering from shellshock or trench-nerves, than flowers."

With a grateful heart for all that has and is being done for our splendid boys in the ranks, by the San Diego Floral Association.

I am, most sincerely,  
*Chaplain G. L. Horene*



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*San Diego Camellia Society's*

61<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL  
CAMELLIA SHOW

FEBRUARY 2<sup>ND</sup> & 3<sup>RD</sup> ❖ 2008

BALBOA PARK ❖ Casa del Prado ❖ Room 101

OPEN FREE TO THE PUBLIC

❖ Saturday 1 pm - 4 pm

❖ Sunday 9 am- 4 pm

❖ We welcome you to enter your blooms in various categories. Arrive at 8 am, Saturday. Win beautiful prizes.

❖ CAMELLIA PLANT SALE  
SATURDAY & SUNDAY

❖ Monthly Meetings held from November through April ❖ Every third Wednesday of the month ❖ 7 pm ❖ Room 101 ❖ Casa Del Prado ❖ Balboa Park.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)

San Diego Floral Association, Inc.

1650 El Prado #105

San Diego, CA 92101-1684

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